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MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL BRANCH
REPORT No. 8.

Prices, Purchasing-Power of Money, Wages,
Trade Unions, Unemployment, and General
Industrial Conditions, 1917.

Prepared under instructions from the Minister of State
for Home and Territories.

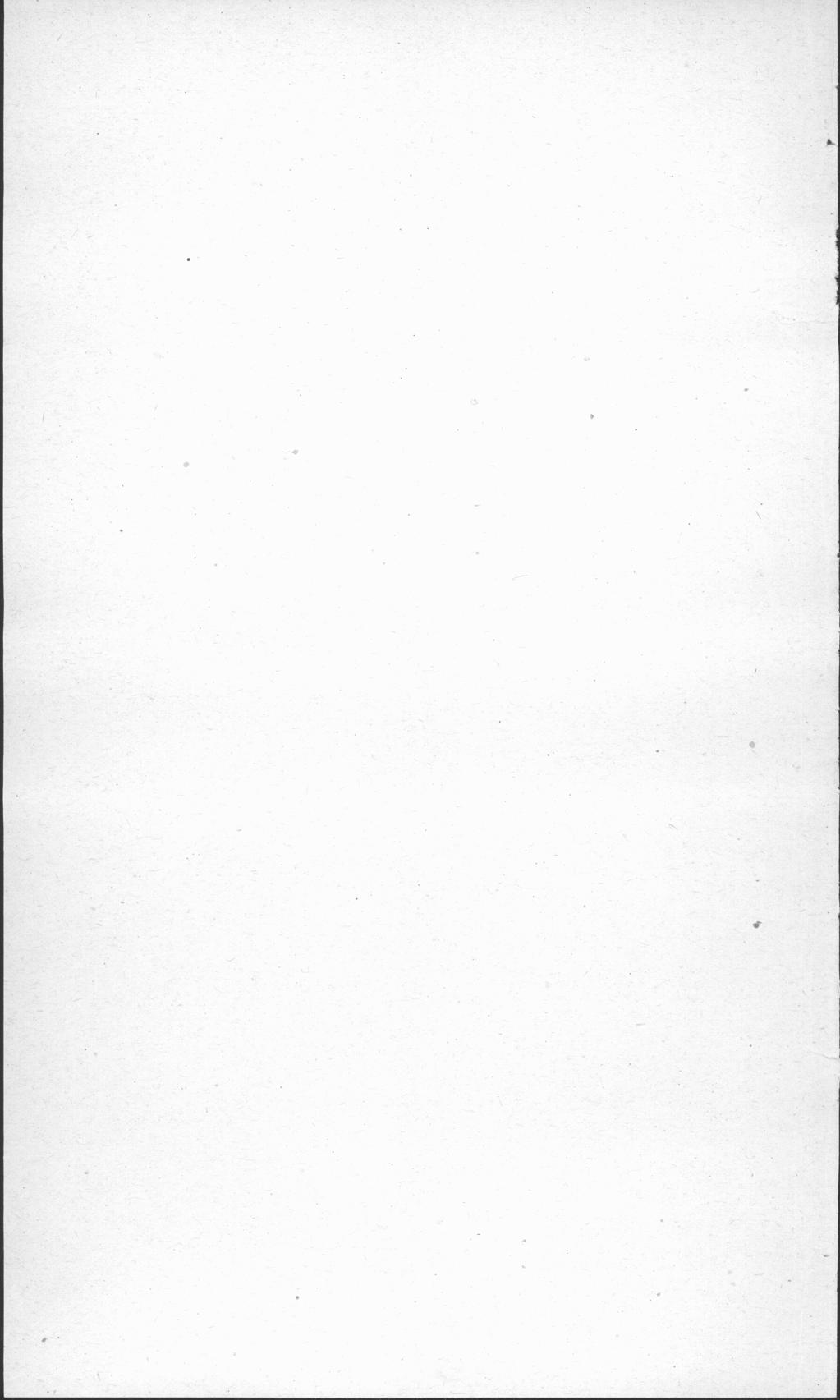
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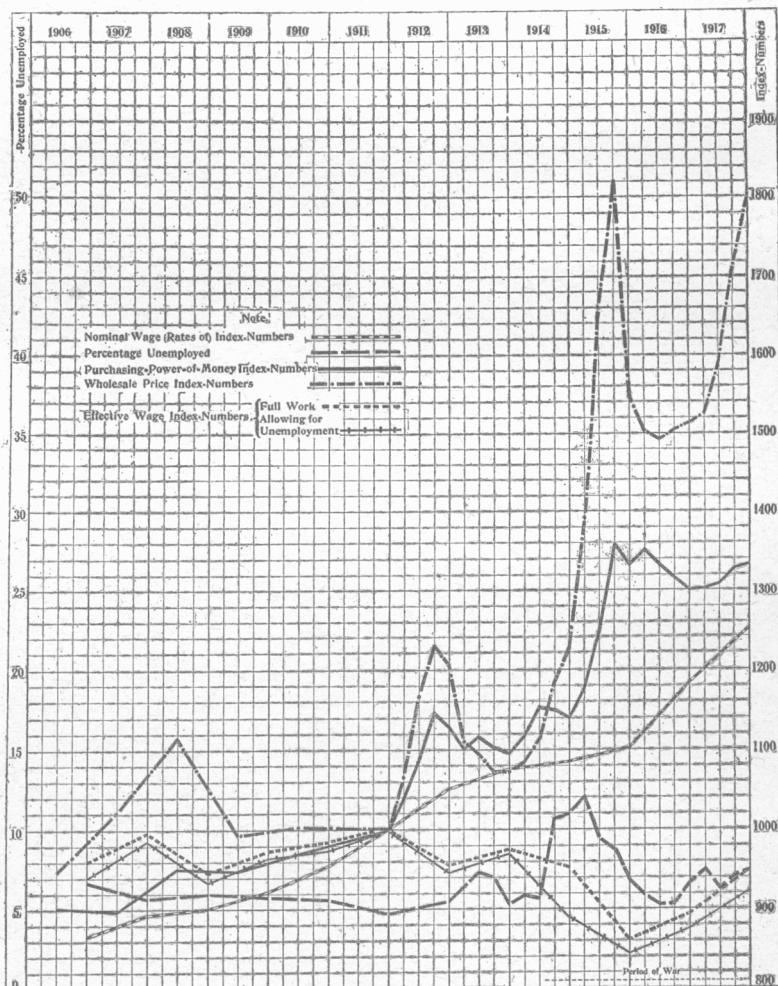
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Purchasing-Power-of-Money, Wholesale Prices, and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers, and Percentage of Unemployed.



EXPLANATORY NOTE.—The figures on the left represent the scale for the percentage of persons unemployed according to trade union returns. The figures on the right represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911 the index-numbers for cost of food, groceries, and house rent (average for the six metropolitan towns) and for wholesale prices (Melbourne) are shewn each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shewn quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. Unemployment figures for previous years are shewn as at the end of each year, while other index-numbers refer to the average for the whole year. Nominal and effective wage index-numbers are only computed annually. It should be observed that the purchasing-power-of-money and wholesale price index-numbers since the year 1911 shew the average level during the whole of each quarter; but for purposes of convenience they have, however, been plotted on the graph as at the end, and not the middle, of each quarter. The purchasing-power-of-money index-number is based upon a constant regimen: see Report No. 1, Appendix vii., and Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46.

SECTION I.—INTRODUCTION.

1. General.—This report contains information in summarised form regarding trade unionism, unemployment, prices, rents, purchasing power of money, wages, and general industrial conditions. These comprise the matters of most general interest and importance now being investigated from year to year (beginning on the 1st January, 1913) by the Labour and Industrial Branch of this Bureau. The inquiries in regard to several of these matters were extended back to the year 1891, so as to furnish statistics comparable with those published herein for 1917. The continuity of the returns now being collected is thus substantially preserved.

In addition, the Appendixes to the Report furnish detailed particulars in a comparable form—firstly, as to prices (wholesale and retail) and rents for the year 1917, and secondly, as to current rates of wages and hours of labour in all the more important trades and occupations in the several States.

The interests concerned in certain of these questions are varied and extensive, and associated with the latter are some important aspects of those economic and industrial problems which have, in comparatively recent years, become the subject of so much research and discussion on the part of statesmen, publicists and students, as well as of those who are engaged in the practical application of Conciliation and Arbitration, Industrial Court and Wages Board Acts.

Most, if not all, of the subjects dealt with in this Report have, in the past, not received in the Commonwealth that attention they now demand, and in view of the lack of data bearing thereon, it became necessary, before any comprehensive or reliable results could be obtained, to commence the collection of the data *de novo*, and to create a suitable organisation for that purpose.

In consequence of the urgent necessity for economy, the publication of the Quarterly Labour Bulletins ceased with No. 18 (June, 1917). The principal tables hitherto published in these Bulletins will, in future, be included in the Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics.

2. Sources of Information.—In the collection of the data upon which the particulars given in this Report are based, a great variety of sources of information has been utilised. For example, in the collection of data as to the purchasing-power of money, particulars are obtained direct from retail dealers and house-agents, the complete scheme

NOTE.—The Labour Report, in its accounts of proceedings, abstracts of reports, legal decisions, quotations and other matters of concern to labour, is not to be regarded as expressing an official endorsement of any of the views or opinions contained therein.

providing for the collection, analysis, and tabulation of over 140,000 separate prices and quotations each year. Particulars as to wholesale prices are taken from the market quotations in the daily press and in trade journals. Information as to unemployment is collected from trade-unions, partly direct and partly through the labour agents and correspondents, whose services are also utilised in collecting returns from trade unions as to industrial disputes and changes in rates of wage. As regards the last two matters, however, returns are also collected from employers and employers' associations. A large number of reports and returns are also received from official sources. These relate to operations of industrial courts and wages boards, employment bureaux, assisted and nominated immigrants, accidents, and cognate matters. Although the work of collecting the necessary information and of keeping in touch with industrial conditions and matters throughout the whole Commonwealth from a single bureau centralised in Melbourne is necessarily one of some difficulty and magnitude, it is felt that the conspectus which is thus given of the industrial affairs of the entire Commonwealth fully justifies the effort, and is essential to the proper control and direction of Australia's development in this regard.

On return to the central Bureau, the particulars given on the forms are examined and checked, and in case of any discrepancy or apparent inconsistency, the forms are returned for verification and correction.

It is gratifying to note that the response of all persons has been, on the whole, satisfactory, and the thanks of the Bureau are due to many who went to a certain amount of trouble and personal inconvenience in order to obtain the desired information from the books of their Associations and from other sources.

3. Classification of Industries.—For the purpose of tabulating and publishing the results of the investigations which have been made in regard to labour organisation, unemployment, rates of wage, industrial disputes, etc., the following industrial classification of trades and occupations has been adopted:—

Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarries, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Hats, Boots, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

SECTION II.—LABOUR ORGANISATIONS.

1. **General.**—In Report No. 2 the method adopted in ascertaining the number of members in labour organisations throughout the Commonwealth was outlined, and the results, tabulated up to the end of 1912, were given. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns have been obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and this was supplemented at the end of the year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages shew the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in the Commonwealth at the present time, and also its development since the year 1906. It is now fully recognised by all concerned that the affairs of no single union are disclosed in the published results. It is, perhaps, almost unnecessary to add that the investigations are based upon an impartial review of the evidence, and are used solely for general statistical purposes. The wide recognition of this has led to a more cordial readiness to assist the Bureau in securing complete information, and the thanks of the Bureau are due to the Secretaries of Trade Unions for their cordial co-operation in this matter.

2. **Development of Trade Unions in Australia, 1906 to 1917.**—The following table shews for the years specified the total number of trade unions in the Commonwealth, and the number and membership of those unions for which membership is available. The estimated total membership of all unions for years prior to 1912 is shewn in the last line of the table.

Number and Membership of Trade Unions in Commonwealth at end of each
Year Specified, 1906 to 1917.

Particulars.	1906.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Total Number of Unions ..	302	419	482	573	621	710	712	713	705	747
No. of Unions for which membership available ..	253	375	442	542	621	710	712	713	705	747
Membership of these Unions	147,049	244,747	277,047	344,999	433,224	497,925	523,271	528,031	546,556	564,187
Estimated Total Membership of all Unions	175,529	273,461	302,119	364,732	„	„	„	„	„	„

These figures shew that the number of unions in 1917 was more than double the number in 1906. The estimated membership during the same period increased nearly four-fold. The estimated increase in membership in any one year was greatest in 1912, when it amounted to 68,492, and least in 1915, when it was only 4760. The increase in the year 1914 was 25,346; in 1915 4760; in 1916 18,525, and in 1917 17,631.

In this connection it should be remembered that those members of trade unions who had joined the Expeditionary Forces at the end of the years 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917 are not included in the membership for those years.

3. Number and Membership of Trade Unions and Branches, 1912 to 1917.—The following table gives particulars of the number of trade unions, the number of branch unions, and the number of members in each State and the Commonwealth at the end of the years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Number of Trade Unions, Branch Unions and Membership, at end of Years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thern T'itory.	Total.	C'wlth.
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NO. OF SEPARATE UNIONS.

1912 ..	177	151	67	78	97	51	..	621	*408
1913 ..	201	162	94	86	107	60	..	710	*432
1914 ..	197	170	86	87	107	62	3	712	*430
1915 ..	203	161	89	87	104	66	3	713	*415
1916 ..	199	151	93	86	107	66	3	705	*392
1917 ..	220	156	96	93	108	71	3	747	*389

NO. OF BRANCHES.

1912 ..	453	241	226	62	177	33	..	1,192	†1,405
1913 ..	555	292	230	74	174	60	..	1,385	†1,663
1914 ..	598	314	224	85	214	62	..	1,497	†1,779
1915 ..	721	312	246	94	203	63	..	1,639	†1,937
1916 ..	790	361	290	102	170	72	..	1,785	†2,098
1917 ..	765	353	291	98	195	76	..	1,778	†2,136

NO. OF MEMBERS.

1912 ..	192,626	116,557	44,768	37,336	33,282	8,655	..	433,224	433,224
1913 ..	230,677	130,176	51,683	40,061	35,317	10,011	..	497,925	497,925
1914 ..	240,023	138,810	55,580	40,956	38,106	9,149	647	523,271	523,271
1915 ..	241,979	141,993	58,310	39,264	35,980	9,346	1,159	528,031	528,031
1916 ..	244,074	147,614	66,807	42,537	33,900	10,263	1,361	546,556	546,556
1917 ..	248,851	148,730	75,393	45,400	33,263	10,886	1,664	564,187	564,187

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.

1913 ..	12.0	11.2	11.5	10.7	10.6	11.6	..	11.5	11.5
1914 ..	4.1	6.6	7.5	2.2	7.9	18.6	..	5.1	5.1
1915 ..	0.8	2.3	4.9	‡4.1	‡5.6	2.2	79.1	0.9	0.9
1916 ..	0.9	4.0	14.6	8.3	‡5.8	9.8	17.4	3.5	3.5
1917 ..	2.0	0.8	12.9	6.7	‡1.9	6.1	22.3	3.2	3.2

* Allowing for inter-State excess. The figures represent the number of distinct organisations and inter-State groups of organisations in the Commonwealth. They do not represent the total number of organisations which are practically independent and self-governing (see remarks below).

† Includes not only branches of separate State unions and sub-branches in each State of inter-State unions, but also head State branches of inter-State unions. ‡ Decrease.

In the above table, under heading the "Number of Separate Unions," each union represented in a State is counted only once, regardless of the number of branches in that State. In taking the total number of separate unions in the Commonwealth (see last column but one), it is obvious that, in the case of inter-State and similar unions, there will be duplication, since each such union is counted once in each State in which it has any branches. In the figures given in the last column, deduction is made for this duplication.

Except in the last column, the "Number of Branches" indicates the number of branches of State head offices, which may, of course, themselves be branches of an inter-State or larger organisation. State branches of inter-State or federated unions, as well as sub-branches within a State, are included under the heading "branches" in the last column. It should be observed that the schemes of organisation of these inter-State or federated unions vary greatly in character, and the number of separate Commonwealth unions does not fairly represent the number of practically independent organisations in Australia. In some of these unions the State organisations are bound together under a system of unification with centralised control, while in others the State units are practically independent and self-governing, the federal bond being loose and existing only for one or two specified purposes.

The increase in membership in 1913 was equal to 11.5 ; in 1914 to 5.1; in 1915 to 0.9; in 1916 to 3.5, and in 1917 to 3.2 per cent. The increase in population from 1912 to 1913 amounted to 1.02 per cent., and from 1913 to 1914 to 1.4 per cent. In 1917 the total population of the Commonwealth was slightly lower than in 1914.

In 1917, leaving out the Northern Territory, the percentage increase was greatest in Queensland. There was a *decrease* in membership in Western Australia in each of the years 1915, 1916 and 1917.

It may be stated that the comparatively large increase in membership in Queensland is mainly the result of the operations of the recently enacted Arbitration Act, under which organisations of Government servants may make application for awards. Consequently, such employees have availed themselves of the provisions of this Act, and thus increased the aggregate total membership in that State.

4. Number of Unions and Membership in Industrial Groups, 1917.

—The following table gives the number of unions and membership in Industrial Groups in each State. The number of unions specified for each State refers to the number of different unions represented in each State; that is to say, inter-State or federated unions are counted once in each State in which they are represented, but sub-branches within a State are not counted. In order to avoid disclosing the affairs of individual unions, in cases where there are only either one or two unions in any group in a State, the membership is not given separately, but is included in the total figures for the State and Commonwealth.

Number of Unions and Membership in Industrial Groups in each State,
December, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N'thn. T'tory.	Total.
NUMBER OF UNIONS.								
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	4	3	2	3	4	3	..	19
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	22	19	12	10	7	4	1	75
III. Foods, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	23	17	4	9	13	8	..	74
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	7	7	2	3	3	4	..	26
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	8	10	2	2	5	2	..	29
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	30	21	6	13	9	5	..	84
VII. Building ..	15	18	10	8	9	4	1	60
VIII. Mining, Quarries, etc. ..	13	3	2	1	4	2	..	25
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	12	5	4	4	5	4	..	34
X. Other Land Transport ..	9	4	3	2	2	2	..	22
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	22	7	17	10	8	9	..	73
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	3	3	1	1	1	1	..	10
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	6	5	1	2	5	..	..	19
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	46	39	30	25	33	23	1	197
Total	220	156	96	93	108	71	3	747

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	6,726	4,526	*	1,041	1,459	829	**	†14,581
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	23,482	11,408	4,708	4,434	2,481	510	..	47,023
III. Foods, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	19,933	11,111	5,562	2,290	1,384	949	..	41,229
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ..	9,372	15,164	*	1,576	587	408	..	†27,107
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	4,989	3,875	*	*	467	*	..	11,401
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	15,087	10,454	925	1,871	1,472	208	..	30,017
VII. Building ..	15,354	10,382	3,741	3,534	1,204	557	..	34,772
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. ..	21,264	3,214	*	*	4,065	*	..	34,029
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	37,580	17,664	10,668	5,660	7,030	918	..	79,520
X. Other Land Transport ..	5,488	4,560	2,035	*	*	*	..	14,728
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	23,401	15,149	5,319	5,241	1,579	1,057	..	51,746
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	14,639	11,128	*	*	*	*	..	40,735
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	5,208	2,781	*	*	1,370	..	..	10,163
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	46,328	27,314	26,743	12,178	8,641	2,105	..	123,309
Total	248,851	148,730	75,393	45,400	33,263	10,886	†1,664	564,187

* Not available for publication separately; included in State and Commonwealth totals.
† Incomplete, see footnote *. ‡ Membership of Groups II., VII. and XIV. included in the South Australian numbers.

5. Number of Male and Female Members of Unions, 1916 and 1917.

—The total membership of trade unions in Australia at the end of 1917 was 564,187, consisting of 518,582 males, and 45,605 females. The corresponding figures for 1916 were 506,981, and 39,575 respectively. In 1912 and 1913, the male membership was 95.9 per cent., and the female membership 4.1 per cent. of the total union membership; in 1914 the percentages were 95.7 and 4.3; in 1915, 94.5 and 5.5; in 1916, 92.7 and 7.3; and in 1917, 91.9 and 8.1.

Of the 45,605 female members of trade unions in 1917, 17,095, or 37.5 per cent., are included in Group IV. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.), and 9,703, or 21.3 per cent. in Groups III. (Food, Drink, etc.), and XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.)

6. Percentage of Male and Female Members of Unions on Total Number of Employees 20 years of age and over, 1917.—The results of the Census taken in 1911 shew the percentage of male and female employees (i.e., persons "in receipt of wages or salary," and persons "unemployed"), 20 years of age and over, on the total male and

female population. Applying these percentages to the estimated total male and female population in 1917, the estimated number of adult employees of each sex in 1917 is obtained. This is of course subject to some measure of uncertainty at a point of time—like the present—viz., 6-7 years after the date of the Census.

The following table shews separately for males and females and for each State (a) the number of members of trade unions, (b) the estimated total number of employees of each sex, 20 years of age and over, in all professions, trades, and occupations, and (c) the percentage of the former (a) on the latter (b). It should be pointed out that *the estimated total number of employees comprises all persons (over the age specified) in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed*; the estimate therefore includes a large number of adults who are either not eligible at all for membership of any trade union (such as certain persons employed in professional occupations) or who, while eligible for membership in so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union embracing their particular trade or occupation. It is also proper to observe that the age at which persons are eligible for membership varies in different unions. The Census results are classified in quinquennial age groups, and the sum of the groups 20 years of age and over is taken as more closely approximating to the average age of admission to membership than that of any other groups.

Percentage of Male and Female Members of Unions on Estimated Total Number of Male and Female Employees, 20 years of Age and over, in all Professions, Trades, and Occupations, at end of Year 1917.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Nthn. T'ctry.	C'wlth.
MALES.								
No. of Members of Unions ..	233,004	129,861	69,338	43,073	31,214	10,441	1,651	518,582
Estimated Total No. of Employees 20 years of age and over ..	366,274	243,128	135,145	74,295	71,938	34,565	2,125	927,470
Percent. of Members on Estimated Total No. Employees ..	63.6	53.4	51.3	58.0	43.4	30.2	77.7	55.9

FEMALES.

No. of Members of Unions ..	15,847	18,869	6,055	2,327	2,049	445	13	45,805
Estimated Total No. of Employees 20 years of age and over ..	84,465	80,367	27,574	19,440	13,232	7,689	89	232,856
Percent. of Members on Estimated Total No. Employees ..	18.8	23.5	22.0	12.0	15.5	5.8	14.6	19.6

* Corresponding figures for 1912 will be found in Report No. 2, page 12; for 1913, in Report No. 5, page 10; for 1914 and 1915 in Report No. 6, page 11; and for 1916 Report No. 7, page 343.

7. Classification of Trade Unions in Commonwealth according to Number of Members, 1912 to 1917.—The following table shews the number and membership of all trade unions in the Commonwealth in 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917 respectively, classified according to size. In this table inter-State unions are, of course, only counted once:—

Classification of Trade Unions in Commonwealth according to Number of Members at end of Years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5000 and under 10,000.	2000 and under 5000.	1000 and under 2000.	500 and under 1000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
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NUMBER OF UNIONS.

1912 ..	7	15	26	43	32	32	39	67	72	75	408
1913 ..	9	17	26	35	45	47	26	81	84	62	432
1914 ..	8	17	29	39	52	45	32	72	67	69	430
1915 ..	9	16	30	41	44	35	34	69	63	74	415
1916 ..	11	16	35	33	47	43	25	53	59	70	392
1917 ..	9	19	27	36	48	44	28	48	63	67	389

MEMBERSHIP.

1912 ..	132,335	99,718	79,614	60,558	22,585	12,234	9,483	9,323	5,106	2,268	433,224
1913 ..	176,188	121,710	75,357	48,938	32,154	17,994	6,406	11,326	5,914	1,938	497,925
1914 ..	176,157	125,021	84,359	59,350	37 141	16,439	7,898	10,141	4,572	2,193	523,271
1915 ..	186,755	122,009	89,295	61,264	30,651	13,405	8,308	9,408	4,537	2,399	528,031
1916 ..	219,990	113,587	95,143	49,170	32,429	16,657	6,003	7,091	4,326	2,160	546,556
1917 ..	217,002	144,198	78,019	52,258	34,944	17,433	7,032	6,742	4,550	2,008	564,187

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.

1912 ..	30.5	23.0	18.4	14.0	5.2	2.8	2.2	2.2	1.2	0.5	100.0
1913 ..	35.4	24.4	15.1	9.8	6.5	3.6	1.3	2.3	1.2	0.4	100.0
1914 ..	33.6	23.9	16.1	11.4	7.1	3.2	1.5	1.9	0.9	0.4	100.0
1915 ..	35.3	23.1	16.9	11.6	5.8	2.5	1.6	1.8	0.9	0.5	100.0
1916 ..	40.3	20.8	17.4	9.0	5.9	3.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	0.4	100.0
1917 ..	38.5	25.6	13.8	9.3	6.2	3.1	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.4	100.0

It will be seen that at the end of the year 1912 the seven largest unions (in the group 10,000 and over) comprised 132,335 members, or no less than 30.5 per cent. of the total membership of all unions. In 1913 there were nine unions; in 1914 eight unions, and in 1915 nine unions in this group. In each of the years specified their membership comprised over 30.0 per cent. of the total membership of all unions. In 1916 the 11 unions in this group comprised no less than 40.3 per cent. and in 1917 the 9 unions comprised 38.3 per cent. of the total membership of all unions.

The membership of the unions in the next group (5000, and under 10,000) comprised in each year specified over 20 per cent. of the total membership of all unions. The percentage in these two groups amounted to 53.5 in 1912; 59.8 in 1913; 57.5 in 1914; 58.4 in 1915; 61.1 in 1916; and in 1917 64.1, of the total membership in those years.

8. Number and Membership of Interstate or Federated Trade Unions in Commonwealth at end of Years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

—The following table gives particulars of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures given include inter-State unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered:—

Number and Membership of Interstate or Federated Trade Unions in Commonwealth
at the end of Years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

PARTICULARS.	UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	*6 States.	
Number of Unions, 1912	20	11	17	14	10	72
" " 1913	16	11	16	18	17	78
" " 1914	18	9	14	16	22	79
" " 1915	17	11	14	16	23	81
" " 1916	15	11	12	18	25	81
" " 1917	18	11	18	14	33	94
Number of Members, 1912	31,358	18,147	55,517	43,548	131,201	279,771
" " 1913	31,063	13,389	73,186	54,202	180,597	352,437
" " 1914	26,423	7,853	64,040	67,427	190,084	355,827
" " 1915	21,709	10,425	73,760	76,633	197,310	379,837
" " 1916	18,185	12,739	56,717	101,848	222,794	412,283
" " 1917	18,286	18,649	76,981	90,068	252,319	456,303

* Three unions in this group have, in addition to branches in each of the six States, a branch in the Northern Territory.

It will be seen that in 1917, 94 out of the 389 separate associations and groups of associations are organised on an inter-State basis. The membership of these 94 unions amounts to 456,303, or 80.9 per cent. of the total membership (564,187) of all unions. The number of inter-State or federated unions in 1912 was 72, comprising 64.6 per cent.; in 1913, 78 comprising 70.8 per cent.; in 1914, 79 comprising 68.0 per cent.; in 1915, 81 comprising 71.9 per cent., and in 1916, 81 comprising 75.4 per cent. of the total membership of all unions.

9. **Central Labour Organisations.**—In each of the metropolitan towns, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organisations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a per capita tax on the members of each affiliated union. In most of the towns where such central organisations exist, the majority of the local unions are affiliated with the central organisation, which is usually known as the Labour or Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organisation extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Federation, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils, to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organisation is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council at the capital town of each State for the organisation of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The table shews the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith, in each State at the end of the years 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Central Labour Organisations—Number and Unions Affiliated at the end of the Years 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.	
No. of Councils ..	1914	4	5	1	4	11	1	26
	1915	3	5	1	4	10	1	24
	1916	4	5	4	4	10	1	28
	1917	4	5	2	4	11	1	27
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated ..	1914	164	196	18	84	182	24	663
	1915	150	198	26	89	183	22	668
	1916	169	205	67	90	181	20	732
	1917	163	192	46	82	171	18	672

The figures given in the above table as to number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated to the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organisation of unions may be classed certain State or district councils, organised on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions, the interests of the members of which are closely connected by reason of the occupations of their members, such, for example, as delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the iron, steel or brass trades, or with the building trades.

The Brisbane District Council of the Australian Labour Federation ceased to exist when the Australian Labour Federation became absorbed in the Australian Workers' Union. A new Labour Council, however, has been organised, to which 46 trade unions are now affiliated.

10. Particulars of Unions Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, classified according to Industrial Groups, at end of Year, 1917.—Under Part V. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered. The following table gives particulars of registered unions at the end of the year 1917. Registered unions include both inter-State associations and associations operating within one State only.

Particulars of Unions Registered under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, classified according to Industrial Groups, at end of Year 1917.

Industrial Group.	No. of Unions.	Mem-ber-ship.	Industrial Group.	No. of Unions.	Mem-ber-ship.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	3	14,839	IX. Railway & Tramway Services ..	1	*
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	12	42,038	X. Other Land Transport ..	2	*
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	11	32,822	XI. Shipping, etc. ..	9	44,936
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	5	27,006	XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	2	*
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	3	5,582	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	4	5,654
VII. Other Manufacturing ..	19	19,860	XIV. Miscellaneous ..	26	70,979
VIII. Mining, Quarries, etc. ..	6	26,189	TOTAL	106	413,356
	3	31,026			

* Not available for publication separately included in total for all groups.

The figures given in the above table regarding unions registered under the Commonwealth Act are not comparable with those given in the table in paragraph 8 hereof regarding all inter-State and federated unions. A few federated unions included in the table in paragraph 8 are not registered under the Commonwealth Act, while, on the other hand, a number of purely State organisations registered under the Act are, of course, not included in the table in paragraph 8.

SECTION III.—FLUCTUATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

1. General.—In Section IX of this Report, the method of index-numbers is applied to trace variations in rates of wages in the Commonwealth since 1891, while in Sections IV., V., VI. and VII. variations in retail prices and purchasing-power of money, and in wholesale and import and export prices are shewn by a similar method. In order to elucidate further the progress of events, it is desirable to supplement that information, so far as practicable, by furnishing index-numbers which disclose the fluctuations in employment and unemployment.

Employment index-numbers serve not only to throw light upon the figures shewing the course of wages, prices, and purchasing-power of money, inasmuch as they indicate the relative loss of time through lack of employment, but also to furnish a useful measure of the fluctuations of industrial activity regarded as a whole. In this connection, it may be said that while export statistics relate only to the margin of national production which is sent overseas, statistics of employment measure, on the other hand, the relative activity or depression of the whole of the industries to which they relate, including, that is, production for the home market as well as for export.

2. Number Unemployed in Various Industries, 1908 to 1917.—The table herewith shews for the end of each year specified:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available.
- (b) The number of members of such unions.
- (c) The number of members unemployed, and
- (d) The percentage of the number of members unemployed (c) on the total membership (b).

Unemployment in Trades Unions, Number and Membership of Unions for which Returns available, and Number and Percentage Unemployed, 1908 to 1917.*

Particulars.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
No. of Unions for which returns available										
Membership	68	84	109	160	464	465	439	465	470	459
No. of Unemployed at end of year	18,685	21,122	32,995	67,961	224,023	251,207	250,716	273,149	292,051	296,937
Percentage of Unemployed at end of year	1,117	1,223	1,857	3,171	12,441	13,430	27,610	18,489	19,562	21,989
	6.0	5.8	5.6	4.7	5.6	5.3	11.0	6.8	6.7	7.4

* See graph on page 6.

For reasons indicated on pages 16 to 18 of Labour Report No. 2 this table does not furnish a complete register of unemployment. Nevertheless for the purpose of making comparisons, and shewing tendencies over a period of years, the percentages returned as unemployed, though not exact, are the most satisfactory available. The significance of the figures shewing the percentage of unemployment may be better understood by reference to the graph on page 6.

3. Employment Index-Numbers, 1891 to 1917.—For greater convenience of examination and comparison with other statistical data, the percentages of unemployed have been subtracted from 100, so as to shew the percentage of members *not returned as unemployed*, and the results computed in the form of index-numbers with the year 1911 as base (= 1000).

Percentage of Members of Trade Unions not Returned as Unemployed, and Employment Index-Numbers, 1891 to 1917.

Particulars.	1891.	1901.	1906.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Percentage not returned as Unemployed												
Employment Index-No., 1911=1000	90.7	93.4	93.3	94.2	94.4	95.3	94.4	94.7	89.0	93.2	93.3	92.6
	952	980	979	988	990	1,000	991	994	934	978	979	972

The figures given in the first line of the above table indicate the percentage of full time worked on the average in each year, on the assumption that the unemployment returns for the end of the year are representative of the state of unemployment throughout the year. The figures in the second line shew (on the same assumption) the relative state of employment in each year, compared with the year 1911, the state of employment being measured, of course, by the percentage of full time worked.

4. Unemployment in Different Industries, 1916 and 1917.—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917 have been published in Labour Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 18,

and in the Quarterly Summary of Statistics, Nos. 70 and 71. The following table shews for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed during each of the four quarters of 1916 and 1917. The percentage of unemployed at the end of 1912 is also given.

Percentage of Unemployment in Different Industries at the end of 1912
and Quarterly for 1916 and 1917.*

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	1912, End of Year.	1916.				1917.			
		1st quar. (Jan. to Mar.)	2nd quar. (April to June.)	3rd quar. (July to Sept.)	4th quar. (Oct. to Dec.)	1st quar. (Jan. to Mar.)	2nd quar. (April to June.)	3rd quar. (July to Sept.)	4th quar. (Oct. to Dec.)
I. Wood Furniture, etc. . .	3.7	6.0	2.4	2.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	5.9	10.1
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc . .	7.4	3.5	4.2	5.6	7.2	8.5	7.9	8.3	11.2
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc . .	7.3	6.4	8.9	8.8	7.6	4.9	6.7	9.0	9.7
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc . .	6.3	4.4	1.4	2.7	2.9	4.5	2.4	3.5	4.2
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	4.7	3.9	3.0	2.8
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	6.9	6.0	5.8	5.3	6.4	6.1	5.3	6.8	8.0
VII. Building . . .	5.5	9.3	10.0	9.8	10.6	11.9	11.3	11.7	8.3
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	5.6	10.4	5.0	4.6	5.1	5.3	5.0	6.5	7.4
X. Other Land Transport . .	1.1	2.3	2.5	3.0	2.9	5.8	2.0	3.9	2.6
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV. Other and Miscellaneous . .	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.5	7.9	9.3	6.8	6.3	6.4
TOTAL	5.6	5.9	5.3	5.3	6.7	7.5	6.3	7.1	7.4

* Figures for 1915 were given in Labour Report No. 7, p. 351.

5. **Unemployment in each State, 1916 and 1917.**—The following table shews for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed during each quarter of 1916 and 1917. The percentage unemployed at the end of 1912 is also given. In making any deductions from or drawing any comparisons between the results shewn in the following table, it must be borne in mind that the classes of industry in the several States for which data are obtained are not identical.

Percentage of Unemployment in each State at the end of Year 1912 and Quarterly
for 1916 and 1917.*

STATE.	1912, end of Year.	1916.				1917.			
		1st quar. (Jan. to Mar.)	2nd quar. (April to June.)	3rd quar. (July to Sept.)	4th quar. (Oct. to Dec.)	1st quar. (Jan. to Mar.)	2nd quar. (April to June.)	3rd quar. (July to Sept.)	4th quar. (Oct. to Dec.)
New South Wales	5.0	5.7	4.4	3.9	5.7	6.5	5.5	5.9	6.4
Victoria	6.7	5.8	6.7	7.5	9.1	9.0	9.4	11.4	10.6
Queensland	4.6	7.5	4.9	4.2	6.7	10.6	5.1	4.9	7.5
South Australia	5.1	4.6	5.1	4.9	4.7	5.1	4.9	3.5	2.6
Western Australia	5.8	6.6	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.5	4.1	5.6	5.1
Tasmania	3.4	4.7	3.1	3.7	2.4	3.6	2.1	3.4	2.8
COMMONWEALTH	5.6	5.9	5.3	5.3	6.7	7.5	6.3	7.1	7.4

* Figures for 1915, were given in Labour Report No. 7, p. 349.

6. **Causes of Unemployment, 1916 and 1917.**—The following table gives, for the Commonwealth, the membership of the unions reporting, and the number and percentage of those unemployed under three main heads for the four quarters of 1916 and 1917:—

Unemployment, according to Causes, in each Quarter of 1916 and 1917.*

Particulars.	No. of Mem- bers of Unions report- ing.	Number and Percentage Unemployed through—						Total.	
		Lack of Work.		Sickness and Accident.		Other Causes.			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
1916.									
1st quarter (Jan. to March) ..	291,525	14,808	5.1	1,848	0.6	522	0.2	17,178	5.9
2nd quarter (April to June) ..	279,009	12,178	4.4	1,936	0.7	606	0.2	14,720	5.3
3rd quarter (July to September) ..	269,961	11,674	4.3	2,130	0.8	587	0.2	14,391	5.3
4th quarter (Oct. to December) ..	278,759	15,307	5.5	2,211	0.8	1,533	0.5	19,051	6.8
1917.									
1st quarter (Jan. to March) ..	286,594	19,378	6.8	1,805	0.6	471	0.2	21,654	7.6
2nd quarter (April to June) ..	297,295	15,786	5.3	2,312	0.8	626	0.2	18,724	6.3
3rd quarter (July to September) ..	234,836	14,443	6.1	1,665	0.7	429	0.2	16,537	7.0
4th quarter (Oct. to December) ..	283,799	17,791	6.3	2,214	0.8	822	0.3	20,827	7.4

* For the corresponding figures for 1915, see Report No. 7, p. 352.

SECTION IV.—RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY.

1. **General.**—In normal circumstances properly computed index-numbers of food and groceries, and house-rent combined, form one of the best possible measures of those variations in the “purchasing-power of money” which affect the cost of living: in short, the variations of the cost of a “composite unit,” consisting of appropriate quantities of suitably chosen commodities, and including also house rent, reflect the variations in the cost of living. The main investigations carried out as to retail prices and purchasing-power of money are of a threefold nature and consist of:—

- (i.) Quarterly variations in the purchasing-power of money in thirty towns.
- (ii.) Annual variations in the purchasing-power of money in 150 towns.
- (iii.) Householders’ Budget Inquiries.

It is principally with the first of these that this Section deals. In Report No. 2, issued in April 1913, Report No. 5, issued in December 1914, Report No. 6, issued in May 1916, and Report No. 7, issued in June 1917, the results of comprehensive investigations into the subjects of Prices and Price-Indexes for past years were published, and an account was given of the methods used in the collection of the data and the computation of the results. A discussion of the theory upon which the calculation of the index-numbers is based was furnished in Appendixes to Report No. 1, issued in December, 1912.

For the computations of the index-numbers the “aggregate expenditure” method is adopted, i.e., the average price for each commodity included is multiplied by its respective “mass unit.” The “mass-unit” represents the relative extent to which each commodity is used or consumed, and is regarded as constant over the period under review. By taking the aggregate expenditure for any one year as base, the index-number for the relative aggregate expenditure for any other year is readily calculated. Certain aspects of this method, not dealt with in previous Reports, are discussed on pages 19 and 20 of Labour Report No. 6.

In order to illustrate clearly the method adopted it will be well to take a simple numerical example. Suppose that in 1901 the average price of butter was 1s. 3d. per lb., of bread was 3d. per 2 lb. loaf, of mutton was 3d. per lb., and of milk was 4d. per quart; and suppose that in 1911 the prices of these four commodities were 1s. 6d. for butter, 4d. for bread, 5d. for mutton, and 5d. for milk. Now the total quantities of each of these commodities consumed in Australia per annum are approximately 90 million lb. of butter, 470 million 2-lb. loaves of bread, 330 million lb. of mutton, and 300 million quarts of milk. Therefore, the actual expenditure of the people of Australia on these commodities in 1901 and 1911 respectively would be as follows:—

Computation of Index-Numbers : Illustrative Example of Aggregate Expenditure Method.

Particulars.	Unit.	Quantities consumed. (0,000,000 omitted.)	Prices.		Total Expenditure.	
			1901.	1911.	1901.	1911.
Butter	lb.	9	15	18	d. (0,000,000 omitted.)	d. (0,000,000 omitted.)
Bread	2lb. loaf	47	3	4	135	162
Mutton	lb.	33	3	5	141	188
Milk	quart	30	4	5	99	165
					120	150
					495	665

The relative aggregate expenditure was 495 in 1901, and rose to 665 in 1911; in other words, the index-number in 1901, taking the expenditure in 1911 as the base ($= 1000$) was $\frac{495}{665} \times 1000 = 744$, and the index-number in 1911, taking the expenditure in 1901 as the base ($= 1000$) was $\frac{665}{495} \times 1000 = 1343$, which might, of course, have been obtained directly by taking the reciprocal of the result previously obtained. If now, instead of only four commodities, a representative group of fifty or more were treated in this way for a series of years, the numbers thus obtained would furnish a satisfactory index of the variations in price from year to year.

2. Changes in Cost of Commodities, Standard of Living, and Expenditure on Living.—A change in the “Cost of Living” may occur either in the *standard of living* or in the *purchasing-power of money*, or in both; both affect the expenditure on living, which expenditure itself depends on three things, viz. :—

- (i.) The *particular commodities* consumed ;
- (ii.) The *relative quantities* of the commodities consumed ; and
- (iii.) The *price* of these commodities.

To avoid confusion as to the significance of the results given in this section, the conception of what is meant by “cost of living” ought to be clearly apprehended, for evidently a change in any *one* of the above may produce a change in the *expenditure* on living. In order to obtain index-numbers which are independent of (arbitrary) variations of (i) and (ii.) above, and which unequivocally reflect the variations caused by *price* alone, it is necessary that the particular series of commodities selected, and the relative quantities of these remain constant. This phase of the subject is dealt with more fully in Labour Report No. 1, Appendix VIII.; in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 17-18; in Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46; and in Labour Bulletin No. 14, pp. 127 to 130. In the places indicated it has been shewn that in order to avoid all confusion between “changes in the regimen” (i.e., change in the standard of living) which is at the disposal of the individual, and “changes in prices,” which are not at his disposal, it is necessary to adopt the “aggregate expenditure” method; that is, to ascertain the cost of a definite regimen or what may be called the cost of a definite “composite unit.” To be of the highest *general* value, the “composite unit” must be one applicable to *the whole* community. It has also been shewn that what has been called the method of “aggregate expenditures,” i.e., the estimation of the cost of this composite unit, as the basis of the

method, is, as said, the only unequivocal method, and technically is perfectly satisfactory, while any other method is technically less satisfactory, or introduces some change of regimen. Variations in quantity or in the items of the composite unit introduce ambiguity, for the resulting change in the price of the composite unit is partly due to change of the unit and partly due to change of the prices of its constituent items.

Notwithstanding the very explicit statement of the purpose and scope of these investigations given in the various Labour Reports, evidence is continually coming to hand that misunderstanding in regard thereto is still prevalent. Many persons, having noticed the obvious fact that a different regimen gives a very different aggregate cost, have imagined that deductions as to the "purchasing-power of money" vary enormously with change of regimen. This phase of the matter has been dealt with fully in previous publications of the Labour and Industrial Branch, and in particular in Labour Bulletin No. 14, pp. 127 to 130, published in October, 1916. It is there demonstrated, by basing the deductions upon various widely differing regimens, that the mode of investigating the purchasing-power of money adopted is not vitiated by employing a fixed regimen; on the contrary, it has reached a high degree of precision as compared with any alternative which has been suggested. Again, it should be observed that any proposed change of regimen must be freed from the effect of a change in the standard of living, otherwise the results are confused, that is, they embody two things, viz.: (a) change in price, and (b) change in standard of living. The conclusion therein arrived at may be repeated here, viz.: That once a standard of living, or living wage, has been fixed, the tables published by the Commonwealth Statistician can be legitimately used as shewing the variations in the cost of living. The only appropriate criticism which could be applicable would be that the regimen used as a basis for estimation has ceased to be representative of the usage of the community to such an extent that the calculations founded on it are misleading. If then, under these circumstances a change is made, certain safeguards are necessary which have been indicated in Labour Report No. 1, Appendixes VIII. and IX.

3. Commodities and Requirements Included.—The 47 items of expenditure included are divided into four groups, viz., (i.) groceries and bread, (ii.) dairy produce, (iii.) meat, and (iv.) house-rent. These items cover about 60 per cent. of the total expenditure of a normal family. There are very cogent reasons for the restriction of the inquiry to the items mentioned. If the comparisons are to be satisfactory, confusion must not arise between changes in standard of living and changes arising from a variation of the purchasing-power of money. In order to avoid such confusion the items selected are such as are sensibly identical and identifiable in the various localities. The most important group of expenditure which is not included is clothing, the cost of which amounts to about 13 per cent. of the total expenditure. Owing to influences of individual taste, fashion, and the great variety of production, articles included in this group are practically not comparable and not identifiable. As regards fuel and light, the cost of which amounts to about 4 per cent. of total expenditure, while these commodities are comparable and identifiable, the usage or relative consumption in the towns included in the inquiries varies to such an extent that their inclusion on an assumed constant regimen

would tend to produce a fictitious result in so far as relative cost of living is concerned. Thus the prices of clothing and of fuel and light cannot be unequivocally compared.

While it is true that insurance premiums and contributions to benefit societies have probably not increased, it must be borne in mind that the purchasing-power of money-benefits to be derived is reduced in accordance with the general depreciation in the purchasing-power of money, and in order to obtain benefits of the same net value as before, the premiums and contributions would have to be increased *pro rata*.

It will be seen, therefore, that notwithstanding the exclusion of various items of expenditure, the results obtained based on the four groups referred to, can be vitiated only in an abnormal state of affairs, and ordinarily only to a very slight extent. It is to be remembered also that prices of commodities which cannot be included because they do not lend themselves to exact specification, tend, *on the whole*, to move in the same direction as those included, and approximately to the same extent. Thus, as a matter of fact, a more reliable result is obtained than would be the case if the investigation endeavoured to cover the whole of the items of expenditure. In short, this method of measuring the variations in the purchasing-power of money, though *theoretically* subject to obvious limitations, is *practically* the best general measure.

The question of procedure in abnormal circumstances was sufficiently referred to in Report No. 6, pp. 20 to 22.

The following tabular statement gives particulars of the commodities and items included, the units of measurement for which prices are collected, and the mass-units shewing the relative extent to which each item is used or consumed.

Retail Prices.—Table shewing Commodities, etc., included in Investigation, Units of Measurement, and "Mass-Units."

Commodity.	Unit.	"Mass Unit."	Commodity.	Unit.	"Mass Unit."
GROUP I.—GROCERIES (INCLUDING BREAD).					
1. Bread ..	2 lb. loaf	468	26. Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	67
2. Flour, ordinary ..	25 lb. bags	11	27. " rib ..	"	82
3. Tea ..	lb.	30	28. " flank ..	"	12
4. Coffee ..	"	2	29. " shin ..	"	14
5. Sugar ..	"	460	30. " steak, rump ..	"	24
6. Rice ..	"	50	31. " shoulder ..	"	53
7. Sago ..	"	8	32. " stewing ..	"	53
8. Jam ..	"	73	33. " corned round ..	"	39
9. Oatmeal ..	"	35	34. " brisket, with bone ..	"	11
10. Raisins ..	"	14	35. " without bone ..	"	32
11. Currants ..	"	14	36. Mutton, leg ..	"	92
12. Starch ..	doz., sqs.	1	37. " shoulder ..	"	62
13. Blue ..	doz., sqs.	$\frac{1}{2}$	38. " loin ..	"	30
14. Candles ..	lb.	16	39. " neck ..	"	40
15. Soap ..	"	64	40. " chops, loin ..	"	32
16. Potatoes ..	14 lbs.	64	41. " leg ..	"	15
17. Onions ..	lb.	68	42. " neck ..	"	31
18. Kerosene ..	gallon	17	43. Pork, leg ..	"	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
GROUP II.—DAIRY PRODUCTS.					
19. Milk ..	quart	300	44. " loin ..	"	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
20. Butter ..	lb.	95	45. " belly ..	"	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
21. Cheese ..	"	15	46. " chops ..	"	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
22. Eggs ..	dozen	18			
23. Bacon, middles ..	lb.	16			
24. " shoulder ..	"	16			
25. Ham ..	"	8			
GROUP IV.—HOUSE RENT.					
47. House Rent ..	..	..	per week	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	

It may here be pointed out that both in the collection of the data and computation of the results great care is exercised, and that there is reason to believe that the price-indexes are based upon more extensive data than any which have been obtained in similar investigations in other parts of the world.

In order to give some idea of the thorough manner in which the work has been performed, it may be mentioned that with regard to the 46 commodities and house rent included in this inquiry, nearly 10,500 prices and quotations are received and tabulated for the 30 towns dealt with each month. This amounts to 126,000 per annum. The complete scheme in regard to the determination of the price-indexes shewing the purchasing-power of money provides for the collection and analysis of over 140,000 separate prices and quotations each year, but owing to the difficulty in getting in all the returns regularly it was necessary to provide for a larger number of returns than was actually required.

When it is understood that this inquiry goes back for the capital towns as far as 1901, and the wholesale price inquiry (80 commodities) as far as 1871, some idea may be gathered as to the magnitude of the work involved. All the returns received are carefully examined, and in cases where the accuracy of any price or quotation is open to doubt, special inquiries are made from the person furnishing the quotation. Each return as received is compared with the previous return from the same dealer and with all other returns received for the same period. It is believed, therefore, that a high degree of accuracy is obtained in the investigations, and it is evident that personal impressions or results, not based upon an equally systematic and equally extensive inquiry, cannot be allowed weight.

4. Other Investigations as to Price-Indexes and Cost of Living.—While this report is concerned principally with variations in price-indexes on the lines indicated in the preceding paragraphs, it will not be out of place to refer briefly to other cognate investigations which have been carried out. These consist, as already indicated, of (i.) Annual Variations in the price index-numbers for 150 Towns, and (ii.) the cost of living according to Householders' Budget Inquiries.

(i.) *Price-Indexes in 150 Towns.*—The investigation as to variation in price-indexes in 100 towns was carried out for the months of November 1913 and November 1914. For subsequent years the number of towns from which returns are collected annually has been increased from 100 to 150. The results of the November 1913 investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5, pp. 26 to 33; of the November 1914 investigation in Labour Bulletin No. 8, pp. 231 to 240; of the November 1915 investigation in Labour Bulletin No. 12, pp. 352 to 361; of the November 1916 investigation in Labour Report No. 7, pp. 393 to 402, and of November 1917 in the present issue, pp. 47 to 57. Prior to 1912 investigations were made concerning the price-indexes in the capital towns only, but during 1912 and subsequent years these investigations have been extended to 30 towns. On page 56 hereinafter comparisons are made to test the accuracy with which the results obtained from these inquiries reflect the conditions obtaining throughout the States and Commonwealth.

It will be seen on examination that the table reveals the fact that there is but little variation in the results obtained from the different sources indicated.

This approximation between the various results indicates that the index-numbers published for the capital towns only, for the years prior to 1912 and for the 30 towns for 1912 and subsequent years, probably reflect, with a substantial degree of accuracy, the variations in the purchasing-power of money, not only in each State separately, but also throughout the Commonwealth as a whole.

(ii.) *Householders' Budget Inquiries.*—The first of these was held in 1910-11, and covered a period of twelve months. The results of that investigation were published in December, 1911.* A second was held during 1913 for the month of November only. The results of this second investigation are given in a special report, entitled "Labour Report, No. 4, Expenditure on Living in the Commonwealth, November, 1913."

5. Purchasing-Power of Money, General Results of Investigation in each Metropolitan Town, 1901 to 1917.—Index-numbers, computed separately for each group of commodities (and for house-rent) included in the investigation, as well as the weighted average for all groups together, are shewn for the capital town of each State in the tables given hereinafter. In these tables the weighted aggregate expenditure for the whole of the capital towns in 1911 is taken as base (= 1,000), and the figures for that year (as well as other years) for the individual towns shew the relative purchasing-power of money as between the respective towns. The result is that the index-numbers given herein are comparable in all respects, that is to say, they shew not only the variations from year to year in each town, but they also furnish comparisons as to the relative cost in the different towns, either in any given year or as between one year and another and one town and another.

Retail Price Index-Numbers in Metropolitan Towns, 1901 to 1917.†

It is, of course, obvious that the index-numbers given in the separate parts of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to shew the relative cost of (say) house-rent, groceries and food, since the weighted average cost for the six towns taken together in 1911 in each case is made equal to 1000, although the cost is of course not the same.

TOWN.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
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GROUP I.—GROCERIES.

Sydney	..	876	904	1,009	1,015	1,028	1,018	1,151	1,106	1,112	1,281	1,329
Melbourne	..	897	817	923	895	939	924	1,061	953	996	1,222	1,210
Brisbane	..	1,011	969	1,045	1,039	1,054	1,087	1,195	1,110	1,076	1,331	1,315
Adelaide	..	949	903	944	991	972	958	1,138	1,039	1,061	1,310	1,274
Perth	..	1,006	1,013	1,038	1,033	1,098	1,276	1,186	1,073	1,113	1,351	1,345
Hobart	..	935	888	960	1,018	1,011	1,003	1,169	1,061	1,070	1,250	1,236
Weighted Average*	..	912	885	975	974	997	1,000	1,124	1,043	1,062	1,272	1,279
												1,261

† See footnote on next page.

* See Report on an "Inquiry into the Cost of Living in Australia, 1910-11," by G. H. Knibbs, C.M.G., etc., December, 1911. Owing to the small number of budgets returned, the deductions and tabulations based thereon are necessarily restricted.

Retail Price Index-Numbers in Metropolitan Towns, 1901 to 1917†—continued.

TOWN.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
GROUP II.—DAIRY PRODUCE.												
Sydney ..	881	932	1,093	1,038	976	971	1,098	1,095	1,110	1,221	1,291	1,319
Melbourne ..	969	967	1,066	989	976	959	1,077	1,019	1,075	1,350	1,338	1,271
Brisbane ..	833	837	953	906	973	983	1,055	1,008	995	1,277	1,287	1,294
Adelaide ..	975	928	1,068	1,028	1,017	1,103	1,203	1,167	1,194	1,360	1,283	1,228
Perth ..	1,290	1,200	1,289	1,251	1,238	1,241	1,320	1,262	1,244	1,475	1,434	1,406
Hobart ..	931	955	1,015	1,017	982	994	1,102	1,109	1,177	1,439	1,334	1,313
Weighted Average*	945	955	1,082	1,023	998	1,000	1,115	1,080	1,108	1,307	1,316	1,295
GROUP III.—MEAT.												
Sydney ..	1,025	994	1,000	982	977	959	1,107	1,213	1,280	1,778	2,091	2,154
Melbourne ..	1,077	1,067	1,043	998	978	929	1,123	1,149	1,270	1,800	2,027	1,949
Brisbane ..	1,026	1,024	1,062	967	936	935	991	965	1,189	1,549	1,716	1,667
Adelaide ..	1,221	1,059	1,060	1,081	1,032	1,037	1,130	1,206	1,502	1,930	2,240	2,079
Perth ..	1,378	1,511	1,482	1,479	1,535	1,577	1,643	1,607	1,688	1,722	1,997	1,913
Hobart ..	1,225	1,279	1,262	1,303	1,276	1,221	1,321	1,400	1,493	1,789	2,217	2,274
Weighted Average*	1,101	1,074	1,069	1,040	1,024	1,000	1,144	1,198	1,323	1,781	2,056	2,022
GROUPS I., II., AND III. COMBINED.—GROCERIES AND FOOD.												
Sydney ..	917	936	1,030	1,012	1,000	989	1,124	1,131	1,156	1,396	1,520	1,540
Melbourne ..	965	925	995	949	960	935	1,082	1,024	1,091	1,411	1,462	1,412
Brisbane ..	965	947	1,023	983	1,000	1,018	1,102	1,042	1,078	1,373	1,426	1,406
Adelaide ..	1,028	951	1,010	1,025	1,001	1,020	1,154	1,119	1,215	1,487	1,532	1,445
Perth ..	1,184	1,197	1,226	1,212	1,251	1,346	1,345	1,267	1,302	1,483	1,542	1,505
Hobart ..	1,011	1,010	1,055	1,093	1,073	1,058	1,190	1,164	1,212	1,445	1,523	1,544
Weighted Average*	972	955	1,031	1,006	1,005	1,000	1,129	1,095	1,144	1,416	1,495	1,472
GROUP IV.—HOUSE RENT.												
Sydney ..	858	911	922	955	988	1,090	1,183	1,246	1,279	1,220	1,212	1,215
Melbourne ..	733	804	828	842	916	970	1,016	1,089	1,126	1,085	1,089	1,124
Brisbane ..	488	575	616	662	700	767	804	863	882	859	847	859
Adelaide ..	629	812	872	940	1,018	1,112	1,140	1,125	1,040	932	930	959
Perth ..	801	684	678	667	696	810	880	928	914	848	869	874
Hobart ..	667	708	727	749	776	805	829	887	914	928	928	951
Weighted Average*	751	816	839	867	919	1,000	1,063	1,118	1,135	1,081	1,081	1,098
ALL GROUPS COMBINED.—GROCERIES, FOOD, AND HOUSE RENT.												
Sydney ..	893	926	986	989	995	1,031	1,148	1,178	1,206	1,323	1,394	1,406
Melbourne ..	870	875	926	905	942	950	1,055	1,051	1,105	1,277	1,300	1,294
Brisbane ..	769	794	856	851	877	915	979	969	997	1,162	1,188	1,181
Adelaide ..	864	894	953	990	1,008	1,058	1,157	1,121	1,143	1,259	1,285	1,245
Perth ..	1,027	986	1,001	988	1,023	1,126	1,154	1,128	1,143	1,222	1,266	1,246
Hobart ..	869	886	920	952	951	954	1,042	1,053	1,090	1,233	1,278	1,301
Weighted Average*	880	897	951	948	970	1,000	1,101	1,104	1,140	1,278	1,324	1,318

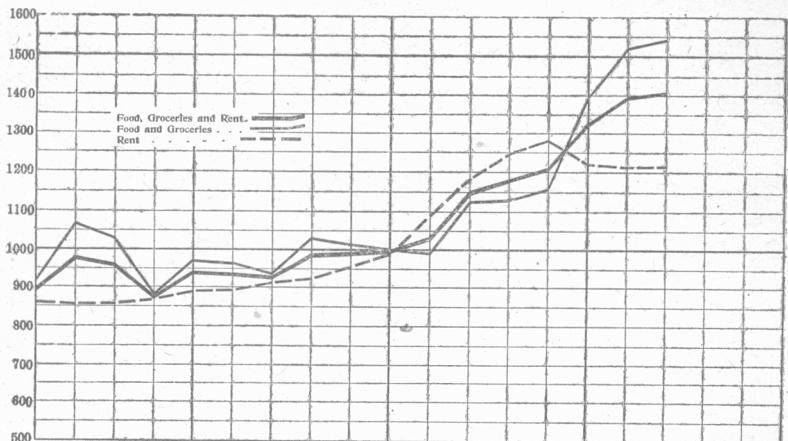
Note.—As to basis of index-numbers, see remarks on previous page.

* For all capital towns.

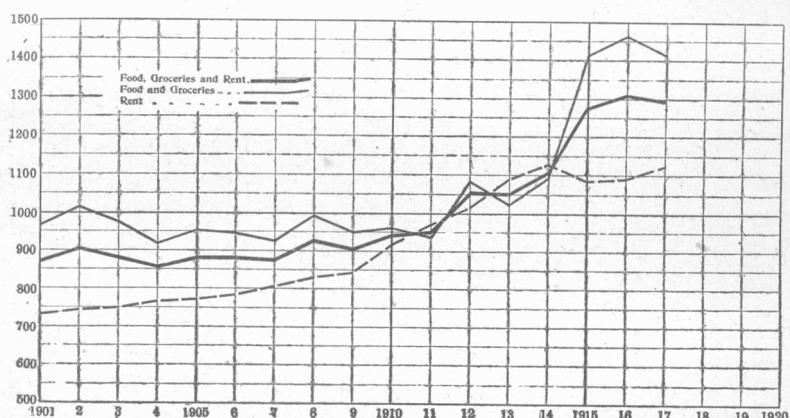
† Index-numbers for years 1902-6 are given in Labour Report No 6, p. 26.

The index-numbers for the last three groups (groceries and food, house rent, and groceries, food, and house rent combined) are shewn for each capital town, together with the weighted average for all six towns combined in the graphs on pages 28 to 30. The paragraphs on pages 30 and 31 briefly indicate the general nature of the variations in each group.

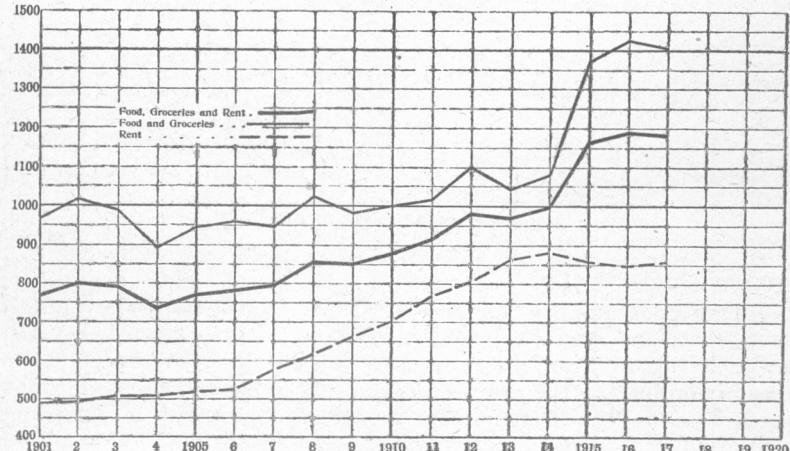
28 RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY.
 GRAPHS SHEWING THE PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY,* METROPOLITAN
 TOWNS, 1901 to 1917.
 SYDNEY.



MELBOURNE.

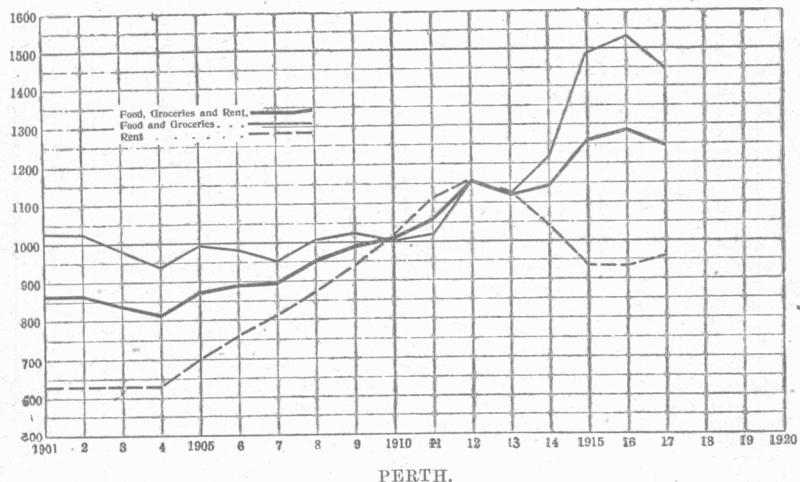


BRISBANE.

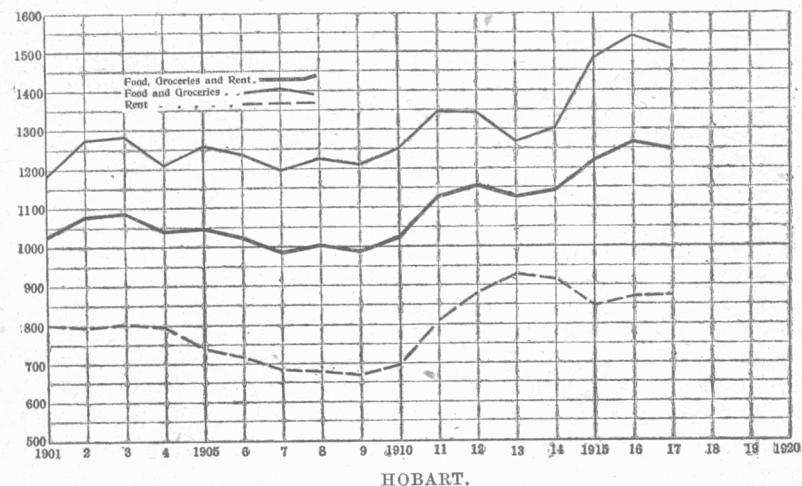


* Based upon a constant "composite unit."

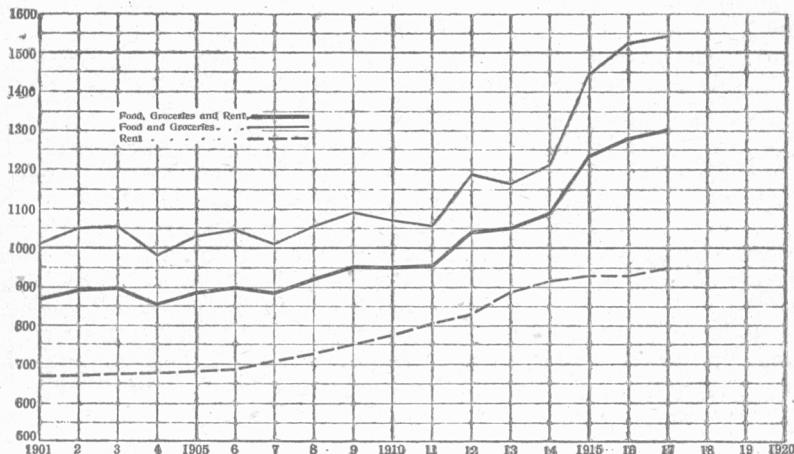
RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY. 29
 GRAPHS SHEWING PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY, METROPOLITAN TOWNS,
 1901 TO 1917.
 ADELAIDE.



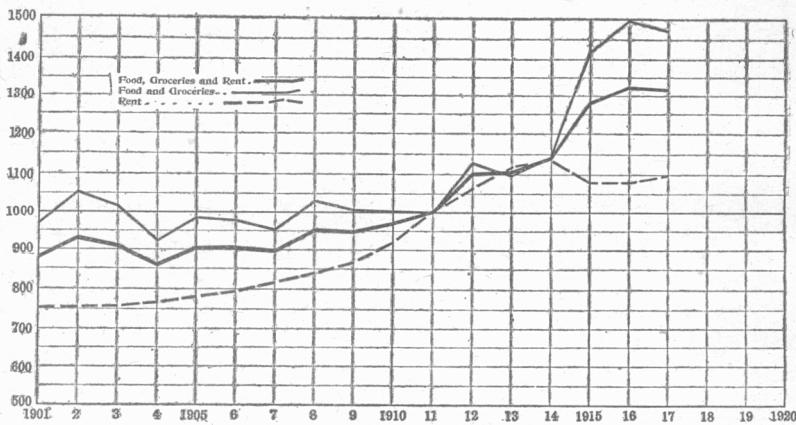
PERTH.



HOBART.



See footnote previous page.



See footnote p. 28.

(i.) *Groceries (18 Commodities)*.—It may be seen that the index-number for this Group was higher in 1917 than in 1916 in Brisbane and Hobart, and lower in the remaining towns, the aggregate effect upon the weighted average index-number shewing a slight decrease. The increase in the weighted average index-number for all towns in 1917 compared with 1911 amounts to 26.1 per cent., and compared with 1901 to 38.3 per cent. The average cost in 1917 of the commodities included in this group was greatest in Perth and least in Melbourne.

(ii.) *Dairy Produce (7 Commodities)*.—The index-numbers for this group were higher for 1917 than for 1916 in Sydney and Brisbane, and lower in the remaining towns. The weighted average index-number for all towns in 1917 was 1.6 per cent. lower than in 1916, 29.5 per cent. higher than in 1911, and 37.0 per cent. higher than in 1901. The average cost in 1917 of the commodities in this group was highest in Perth and lowest in Adelaide.

(iii.) *Meat (21 Cuts or Joints of Butcher's Meat)*.—The index-numbers for this group were lower in 1917 than in 1916 in all the capital towns except Sydney and Hobart. The weighted average index-number for all towns taken together in 1917 was 1.7 per cent. lower than in 1916; 102.2 per cent. higher than in 1911, and 83.7 per cent. higher than in 1901. The average cost of the commodities included in this group for 1917 was greatest in Hobart and least in Brisbane.

(iv.) *Groceries and Food (Groups I., II., and III. combined)*.*—The index-numbers for this combined group shew the aggregate effect upon the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers of movements in prices of commodities, apart from variations in house rent. There was an increase in 1917 compared with the immediately preceding year in Sydney and Hobart, and a decrease in the remaining towns. During the whole of the period covered by the table on page 27 the index-numbers were higher in Perth than in any other capital town up to and including 1914. The disparity between that town and the remaining towns was greater in the earlier years of the period, and less in the later years, and for 1915 the index-number for Perth, while still

* That is the "composite unit" upon which these index-numbers are computed.

higher than for all the towns except Adelaide, shews less divergence from the weighted average than for any other year. In 1916 the index-number for Perth was again higher than for any other town, but in 1917 it was lower in that town than in Sydney or Hobart. Taking the weighted average for all the towns the prices of the 46 items of food and groceries specified on page 24 were 47.2 per cent. higher in 1917 than in 1911. The average cost of these items for 1917 was greatest in Hobart and least in Brisbane.

(v.) *House Rent*.—Except in Adelaide, where rents remained stationary from 1901 to 1904, and declined in 1913, and in Perth, where they decreased from 1903 to 1907, and again in 1908-9 and 1914, there was a uniform increase in each of the metropolitan towns from 1901 to 1914. The abnormal conditions arising out of the war has resulted in entirely changed conditions for the years 1915; 1916, and 1917. It will be seen that for 1915 there was a decrease in the cost of housing accommodation in all the towns except Hobart, where there was a small increase. In 1916 Melbourne and Perth shew slight increases, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide slight decreases, while the index-number for Hobart was the same for 1916 as for 1915. In 1917 there was an increase in the average rentals in all the towns. The weighted average index-number for 1917 is 1.6 per cent. higher than for 1916, 9.8 per cent. higher than in 1911, and 46.2 per cent. higher than in 1901. The greatest increase since 1901 has occurred in Brisbane (76.0 per cent.), followed in the order named by Melbourne (53.3 per cent.), Adelaide (52.5 per cent.), Sydney (41.6 per cent.), Hobart (42.6 per cent.), and Perth (9.1 per cent.).

(vi.) *Price Index-numbers for Food, Groceries and House Rent combined*.—The weighted average index-numbers for the combined expenditure upon the 46 items of food and groceries and housing accommodation shew a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in 1917 compared with 1916. Reference to the graph on page 65 will shew that the weighted average price index-number was lower in 1904 than in any other year during the period covered by the investigations. The index-number rose in 1905 and 1906, and fell in 1907. There was a substantial rise in 1908, followed by a slight decline in 1909. Further rises occurred in 1910 and 1911, and again in 1912, when the increase was very considerable (10.1 per cent.). The index-number for 1913 was practically the same as for 1912, but in 1914 there was a rise of 3.2 per cent., in 1915 of 12.1 per cent., and a further rise in 1916 of 3.6 per cent. As has already been stated the index-number for 1917 was slightly lower than for the immediately preceding year.

Compared with 1911, the base year of the period, the weighted average purchasing-power-of-money index-number shews an increase of 31.8 per cent. for 1917. It may further be seen that, except for the year 1909, from 1901 to 1912 inclusive, the index-number for Perth was higher than for any other capital town. In 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917 the index-number for Sydney was the highest, and for 1917 the index-number for Perth was lower than for any other town except Brisbane and Adelaide. Attention has already been drawn in the quarterly Labour Bulletins to the fact that the increase in prices of food and groceries during 1915 was considerably less in Perth than in the remaining towns. The result of this is to alter the relative cost of food, groceries, and house-rent combined in the several towns.

6. Index-numbers Shewing Variations in Cost of Food, Groceries and House-rent, 1912 to 1917.—In the following tables, index-numbers are given shewing variations in the cost of food and groceries (46 commodities), in thirty of the more important towns throughout the Commonwealth at yearly and quarterly periods from 1912 to 1917. Index-numbers for food and groceries are also given for each month of 1917. In addition index-numbers shewing for these years the quarterly and yearly variations in house rents and in the combined cost of food, groceries and house-rent are given. As explained in pp. 31 and 32 of Labour Report No. 6, these are now computed to the same base as the index-numbers relating to the six capital cities, which go back to the year 1901:—

Food and Groceries (46 Commodities), Index-Numbers for Each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average of Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

	N.S.W.—INDEX-NUMBERS.					VICTORIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.				
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.
1912	1,124	1,134	1,352	1,128	1,083	1,134	1,082	1,110	1,112	1,086
1913	1,131	1,127	1,343	1,151	1,053	1,139	1,024	1,028	1,057	1,049
1914	1,156	1,142	1,383	1,174	1,094	1,164	1,091	1,086	1,098	1,099
1915	1,396	1,389	1,642	1,388	1,336	1,404	1,411	1,443	1,429	1,393
1916	1,520	1,508	1,810	1,532	1,466	1,530	1,462	1,466	1,453	1,464
1917	1,540	1,537	1,778	1,490	1,483	1,548	1,412	1,401	1,419	1,429
1912 1st Qtr.	1,036	1,062	1,295	1,033	995	1,048	988	1,001	998	1,002
2nd "	1,090	1,099	1,328	1,070	1,056	1,100	1,069	1,056	1,102	1,056
3rd "	1,195	1,195	1,375	1,154	1,136	1,201	1,156	1,170	1,176	1,132
4th "	1,176	1,180	1,410	1,258	1,144	1,187	1,113	1,211	1,175	1,154
1913 1st Qtr.	1,136	1,124	1,329	1,189	1,060	1,143	1,036	1,055	1,101	1,085
2nd "	1,158	1,147	1,381	1,189	1,083	1,166	1,040	1,049	1,093	1,072
3rd "	1,128	1,124	1,321	1,118	1,036	1,134	1,021	1,013	1,037	1,030
4th "	1,104	1,112	1,343	1,109	1,034	1,114	999	996	999	1,009
1914 1st Qtr.	1,150	1,110	1,340	1,134	1,065	1,153	1,028	1,029	1,043	1,038
2nd "	1,163	1,153	1,423	1,201	1,121	1,173	1,118	1,090	1,115	1,133
3rd "	1,154	1,148	1,393	1,177	1,095	1,163	1,101	1,113	1,109	1,099
4th "	1,156	1,154	1,375	1,184	1,092	1,164	1,115	1,113	1,126	1,126
1915 1st Qtr.	1,231	1,233	1,488	1,222	1,182	1,241	1,186	1,202	1,201	1,178
2nd "	1,286	1,293	1,605	1,299	1,254	1,300	1,382	1,411	1,389	1,348
3rd "	1,536	1,506	1,721	1,518	1,453	1,540	1,584	1,627	1,634	1,557
4th "	1,530	1,522	1,758	1,512	1,455	1,537	1,491	1,531	1,493	1,489
1916 1st Qtr.	1,566	1,532	1,784	1,538	1,454	1,570	1,510	1,503	1,504	1,499
2nd "	1,517	1,496	1,827	1,545	1,479	1,528	1,483	1,501	1,479	1,506
3rd "	1,510	1,509	1,816	1,532	1,468	1,523	1,448	1,449	1,417	1,449
4th "	1,485	1,494	1,817	1,511	1,402	1,500	1,407	1,412	1,411	1,400
1917 1st Qtr.	1,499	1,518	1,804	1,522	1,467	1,513	1,395	1,400	1,395	1,405
2nd "	1,506	1,528	1,809	1,481	1,471	1,520	1,412	1,403	1,425	1,438
3rd "	1,588	1,548	1,743	1,460	1,487	1,587	1,419	1,392	1,415	1,418
4th "	1,566	1,555	1,754	1,496	1,506	1,571	1,422	1,408	1,395	1,416
1917										
January ..	1,481	1,512	1,814	1,528	1,468	1,498	1,394	1,401	1,396	1,395
February ..	1,505	1,527	1,804	1,530	1,471	1,519	1,398	1,400	1,398	1,425
March ..	1,510	1,514	1,795	1,508	1,463	1,522	1,393	1,400	1,390	1,419
April ..	1,513	1,527	1,806	1,507	1,461	1,525	1,410	1,401	1,403	1,446
May ..	1,499	1,527	1,814	1,476	1,473	1,514	1,409	1,406	1,432	1,432
June ..	1,507	1,529	1,807	1,458	1,480	1,520	1,418	1,403	1,440	1,484
July ..	1,510	1,535	1,780	1,440	1,481	1,522	1,426	1,398	1,438	1,428
August ..	1,624	1,556	1,733	1,469	1,481	1,619	1,419	1,391	1,412	1,428
September ..	1,629	1,552	1,716	1,471	1,499	1,622	1,414	1,388	1,394	1,439
October ..	1,599	1,563	1,726	1,467	1,509	1,598	1,417	1,401	1,393	1,406
November ..	1,567	1,554	1,755	1,494	1,503	1,572	1,426	1,411	1,396	1,424
December ..	1,533	1,549	1,780	1,527	1,504	1,544	1,423	1,411	1,396	1,443

Index-numbers for each of the months of 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915 are given on p. 33-5 of Labour Report, No. 6, and for 1917 on pp. 371-3 of Labour Report No. 7.

Food and Groceries (46 Commodities), Index-Numbers for Each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average of Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000)—cont.

	QUEENSLAND—INDEX-NUMBERS.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Petersburg.	Weighted Average, S.A.
1912	1,102	1,100	1,142	1,292	1,144	1,123	1,154	1,154	1,195	1,031	1,160	1,152
1913	1,042	1,045	1,067	1,212	1,073	1,060	1,119	1,139	1,161	1,021	1,108	1,119
1914	1,078	1,088	1,145	1,266	1,088	1,102	1,215	1,210	1,247	1,062	1,268	1,212
1915	1,373	1,405	1,429	1,546	1,372	1,396	1,487	1,506	1,560	1,382	1,504	1,489
1916	1,426	1,432	1,530	1,599	1,422	1,452	1,532	1,583	1,604	1,467	1,593	1,537
1917	1,405	1,390	1,427	1,574	1,413	1,420	1,445	1,535	1,579	1,422	1,552	1,457
1912 1st Qtr.	1,095	1,115	1,166	1,295	1,132	1,122	1,100	1,108	1,162	976	1,125	1,100
2nd "	1,095	1,100	1,148	1,294	1,156	1,119	1,147	1,147	1,202	1,017	1,134	1,145
3rd "	1,105	1,088	1,125	1,283	1,159	1,122	1,192	1,178	1,201	1,063	1,190	1,188
4th "	1,111	1,095	1,132	1,299	1,128	1,128	1,177	1,193	1,213	1,069	1,193	1,176
1913 1st Qtr.	1,036	1,018	1,064	1,233	1,079	1,055	1,123	1,140	1,155	1,018	1,109	1,122
2nd "	1,060	1,047	1,074	1,231	1,116	1,076	1,145	1,161	1,183	1,037	1,118	1,144
3rd "	1,040	1,054	1,052	1,192	1,058	1,056	1,117	1,137	1,162	1,039	1,117	1,118
4th "	1,035	1,058	1,078	1,191	1,041	1,055	1,090	1,119	1,142	989	1,088	1,091
1914 1st Qtr.	1,044	1,078	1,110	1,218	1,090	1,070	1,147	1,146	1,161	1,030	1,166	1,144
2nd "	1,058	1,056	1,125	1,255	1,073	1,082	1,250	1,252	1,255	1,066	1,291	1,246
3rd "	1,085	1,069	1,161	1,252	1,076	1,105	1,229	1,231	1,283	1,067	1,319	1,228
4th "	1,124	1,151	1,186	1,338	1,114	1,151	1,233	1,209	1,289	1,084	1,294	1,231
1915 1st Qtr.	1,193	1,228	1,261	1,423	1,221	1,223	1,315	1,328	1,402	1,189	1,353	1,317
2nd "	1,318	1,360	1,361	1,553	1,360	1,347	1,506	1,522	1,553	1,395	1,515	1,506
3rd "	1,450	1,483	1,466	1,549	1,422	1,463	1,602	1,624	1,673	1,498	1,607	1,603
4th "	1,531	1,549	1,630	1,660	1,484	1,552	1,526	1,552	1,612	1,445	1,540	1,529
1916 1st Qtr.	1,551	1,554	1,663	1,678	1,523	1,572	1,550	1,591	1,648	1,481	1,598	1,556
2nd "	1,456	1,453	1,580	1,645	1,440	1,484	1,574	1,610	1,643	1,512	1,630	1,578
3rd "	1,356	1,383	1,447	1,530	1,373	1,383	1,521	1,579	1,565	1,461	1,584	1,525
4th "	1,341	1,338	1,431	1,539	1,353	1,367	1,469	1,548	1,561	1,426	1,568	1,477
1917 1st Qtr.	1,349	1,308	1,384	1,542	1,335	1,364	1,476	1,564	1,583	1,419	1,560	1,485
2nd "	1,373	1,352	1,409	1,570	1,374	1,391	1,469	1,572	1,605	1,441	1,586	1,482
3rd "	1,419	1,404	1,440	1,575	1,402	1,433	1,402	1,494	1,552	1,408	1,521	1,416
4th "	1,480	1,498	1,473	1,610	1,503	1,492	1,432	1,511	1,575	1,419	1,539	1,444
January ..	1,340	1,300	1,369	1,531	1,330	1,355	1,467	1,558	1,573	1,407	1,556	1,477
February ..	1,353	1,311	1,391	1,549	1,332	1,368	1,480	1,566	1,582	1,423	1,560	1,489
March ..	1,355	1,312	1,393	1,543	1,342	1,370	1,480	1,569	1,594	1,426	1,564	1,490
April ..	1,364	1,323	1,400	1,573	1,348	1,381	1,485	1,570	1,600	1,438	1,573	1,495
May ..	1,375	1,360	1,404	1,582	1,369	1,394	1,480	1,573	1,603	1,445	1,584	1,491
June ..	1,380	1,372	1,424	1,555	1,406	1,399	1,441	1,571	1,613	1,441	1,602	1,458
July ..	1,389	1,383	1,420	1,583	1,400	1,408	1,399	1,524	1,565	1,418	1,587	1,416
August ..	1,414	1,389	1,427	1,569	1,409	1,426	1,401	1,486	1,558	1,411	1,517	1,415
September ..	1,453	1,440	1,474	1,572	1,511	1,465	1,407	1,471	1,533	1,396	1,508	1,418
October ..	1,485	1,527	1,474	1,619	1,523	1,500	1,419	1,485	1,551	1,402	1,512	1,430
November ..	1,476	1,519	1,467	1,622	1,507	1,492	1,440	1,497	1,566	1,404	1,542	1,449
December ..	1,480	1,447	1,477	1,587	1,478	1,485	1,437	1,549	1,607	1,452	1,565	1,453

Index-numbers for each of the months of 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915 are given on p.p 33-5 of Labour Report, No. 6, and for 1917 on pp. 371-3 Labour Report No. 7.

Food and Groceries (46 Commodities), Index-Numbers for Each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average of Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000)—cont.

	WESTERN AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						TASMANIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						Weighted Average 6 Capital Towns.	Weighted Average 30 Towns, C'wealth.	
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Midland Junction Guildford.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Zeehan.	Beaconsfield.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.			
1912	1,345	1,677	1,370	1,403	1,410	1,418	1,190	1,125	1,302	1,201	1,289	1,182	1,129	1,140	
1913	1,267	1,607	1,301	1,352	1,386	1,344	1,164	1,073	1,268	1,181	1,291	1,149	1,095	1,106	
1914	1,302	1,654	1,323	1,393	1,453	1,382	1,212	1,130	1,290	1,205	1,305	1,196	1,144	1,155	
1915	1,483	1,809	1,516	1,580	1,659	1,559	1,445	1,406	1,571	1,512	1,581	1,450	1,416	1,428	
1916	1,542	1,823	1,570	1,666	1,652	1,608	1,523	1,504	1,652	1,611	1,661	1,535	1,495	1,506	
1917	1,505	1,790	1,520	1,652	1,626	1,571	1,544	1,510	1,638	1,615	1,647	1,548	1,472	1,481	
1912 1st Qtr.	1,301	1,659	1,310	1,365	1,338	1,378	1,093	1,021	1,225	1,082	1,192	1,083	1,049	1,065	
2nd "	1,408	1,730	1,435	1,441	1,439	1,477	1,145	1,110	1,276	1,159	1,272	1,149	1,111	1,125	
3rd "	1,368	1,671	1,406	1,433	1,435	1,435	1,235	1,171	1,329	1,237	1,341	1,226	1,186	1,194	
4th "	1,303	1,650	1,364	1,373	1,429	1,382	1,288	1,189	1,378	1,327	1,352	1,267	1,160	1,176	
1913 1st Qtr.	1,275	1,595	1,298	1,349	1,384	1,346	1,158	1,062	1,259	1,182	1,280	1,142	1,100	1,113	
2nd "	1,299	1,621	1,334	1,370	1,407	1,372	1,188	1,090	1,287	1,205	1,331	1,171	1,117	1,129	
3rd "	1,248	1,622	1,298	1,359	1,357	1,334	1,170	1,086	1,266	1,194	1,289	1,157	1,091	1,101	
4th "	1,245	1,590	1,274	1,328	1,368	1,323	1,139	1,051	1,259	1,143	1,262	1,125	1,070	1,082	
1914 1st Qtr.	1,245	1,580	1,260	1,330	1,399	1,320	1,162	1,075	1,245	1,149	1,285	1,146	1,104	1,115	
2nd "	1,296	1,617	1,315	1,373	1,429	1,368	1,231	1,133	1,280	1,193	1,312	1,206	1,158	1,168	
3rd "	1,336	1,693	1,356	1,431	1,482	1,417	1,212	1,143	1,294	1,232	1,311	1,201	1,151	1,163	
4th "	1,330	1,727	1,362	1,440	1,503	1,420	1,243	1,170	1,342	1,245	1,311	1,230	1,161	1,174	
1915 1st Qtr.	1,420	1,747	1,473	1,483	1,596	1,496	1,293	1,225	1,377	1,302	1,404	1,283	1,235	1,248	
2nd "	1,508	1,796	1,531	1,596	1,688	1,576	1,413	1,348	1,510	1,431	1,523	1,405	1,364	1,378	
3rd "	1,546	1,882	1,571	1,654	1,711	1,623	1,541	1,528	1,713	1,647	1,679	1,550	1,554	1,563	
4th "	1,460	1,812	1,488	1,586	1,641	1,542	1,534	1,523	1,684	1,668	1,717	1,555	1,512	1,524	
1916 1st Qtr.	1,504	1,823	1,532	1,610	1,678	1,578	1,593	1,544	1,692	1,628	1,687	1,590	1,540	1,549	
2nd "	1,564	1,825	1,557	1,654	1,676	1,623	1,555	1,539	1,690	1,652	1,701	1,569	1,510	1,523	
3rd "	1,580	1,851	1,622	1,737	1,656	1,644	1,489	1,475	1,635	1,605	1,654	1,507	1,479	1,492	
4th "	1,520	1,794	1,668	1,656	1,598	1,584	1,452	1,456	1,593	1,559	1,600	1,474	1,446	1,459	
1917 1st Qtr.	1,500	1,755	1,526	1,648	1,609	1,560	1,493	1,491	1,599	1,567	1,596	1,507	1,448	1,459	
2nd "	1,555	1,780	1,572	1,725	1,631	1,609	1,481	1,487	1,610	1,594	1,622	1,503	1,461	1,473	
3rd "	1,485	1,790	1,496	1,671	1,620	1,557	1,533	1,503	1,632	1,629	1,662	1,540	1,427	1,493	
4th "	1,480	1,834	1,485	1,562	1,643	1,559	1,670	1,560	1,709	1,670	1,708	1,640	1,491	1,500	
1917	January ..	1,494	1,791	1,533	1,637	1,602	1,564	1,527	1,501	1,608	1,569	1,592	1,528	1,440	1,453
February ..	1,500	1,742	1,522	1,653	1,612	1,558	1,482	1,494	1,603	1,564	1,600	1,502	1,452	1,462	
March ..	1,505	1,731	1,524	1,655	1,613	1,559	1,471	1,479	1,586	1,568	1,595	1,491	1,452	1,462	
April ..	1,535	1,741	1,552	1,677	1,621	1,584	1,476	1,485	1,597	1,580	1,598	1,496	1,462	1,473	
May ..	1,586	1,799	1,598	1,753	1,630	1,636	1,471	1,478	1,610	1,587	1,625	1,494	1,460	1,473	
June ..	1,543	1,802	1,566	1,745	1,642	1,605	1,497	1,497	1,620	1,615	1,643	1,517	1,460	1,473	
July ..	1,510	1,794	1,512	1,727	1,622	1,577	1,500	1,495	1,628	1,610	1,641	1,518	1,458	1,470	
August ..	1,478	1,792	1,483	1,665	1,610	1,551	1,533	1,502	1,629	1,606	1,655	1,539	1,499	1,502	
September ..	1,467	1,786	1,492	1,620	1,631	1,542	1,566	1,513	1,638	1,670	1,680	1,565	1,504	1,506	
October ..	1,483	1,838	1,498	1,569	1,628	1,563	1,620	1,532	1,666	1,655	1,704	1,601	1,500	1,506	
November ..	1,480	1,847	1,482	1,567	1,642	1,562	1,696	1,577	1,725	1,689	1,711	1,661	1,494	1,503	
December ..	1,477	1,817	1,474	1,550	1,659	1,553	1,694	1,572	1,736	1,665	1,709	1,658	1,480	1,492	

Index-numbers for each of the months of 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915 are given on p.p 33-5 of Labour Report, No. 6 and for 1917 on pp. 371-3 of Labour Report No. 7.

House Rents: Index-Numbers for Each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average of Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

	N.S.W.—INDEX-NUMBERS.						VICTORIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.*	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, Victoria.
1912	1,183	699	689	918	683	1,112	1,016	634	659	868	759	957
1913	1,246	785	775	995	802	1,179	1,089	630	674	860	778	1,017
1914	1,279	783	617	1,067	835	1,201	1,126	644	670	887	795	1,048
1915	1,220	800	292	1,110	771	1,140	1,085	638	653	878	772	1,013
1916	1,212	778	524	1,000	765	1,140	1,089	637	639	901	784	1,017
1917	1,216	771	651	1,120	777	1,148	1,124	628	642	937	794	1,046
1912 1st Qtr.	1,115	670	631	927	659	1,050	985	669	645	844	766	932
2nd „	1,169	670	648	927	659	1,097	1,002	677	664	873	766	949
3rd „	1,230	714	714	889	706	1,153	1,031	607	657	888	736	968
4th „	1,218	743	752	931	708	1,148	1,047	582	670	867	769	978
1913 1st Qtr.	1,222	773	755	939	755	1,155	1,069	626	669	859	780	999
2nd „	1,241	792	770	1,020	774	1,175	1,086	632	671	859	776	1,014
3rd „	1,246	792	796	1,010	836	1,180	1,099	632	675	865	776	1,025
4th „	1,275	783	780	1,010	843	1,204	1,105	630	679	859	779	1,030
1914 1st Qtr.	1,273	783	779	1,057	857	1,203	1,120	644	673	829	804	1,041
2nd „	1,286	783	780	1,058	845	1,214	1,144	644	678	906	810	1,064
3rd „	1,285	783	741	1,060	834	1,212	1,147	644	678	908	784	1,067
4th „	1,271	783	169	1,093	806	1,176	1,093	643	650	905	781	1,021
1915 1st Qtr.	1,228	811	222	1,093	772	1,144	1,092	638	654	879	786	1,019
2nd „	1,219	811	293	1,098	772	1,140	1,087	638	657	880	789	1,015
3rd „	1,219	793	293	1,098	772	1,138	1,079	634	649	879	758	1,008
4th „	1,213	785	360	1,151	767	1,136	1,081	634	651	876	757	1,009
1916 1st Qtr.	1,208	779	393	1,048	767	1,131	1,088	640	644	902	774	1,016
2nd „	1,214	779	454	1,100	763	1,139	1,085	638	644	901	784	1,013
3rd „	1,214	784	621	1,115	766	1,146	1,088	638	633	901	788	1,015
4th „	1,214	770	626	1,098	763	1,145	1,097	634	635	901	788	1,022
1917 1st Qtr.	1,213	771	630	1,107	763	1,144	1,115	628	621	937	794	1,037
2nd „	1,213	770	645	1,124	781	1,147	1,111	628	635	937	793	1,035
3rd „	1,213	771	660	1,124	782	1,146	1,129	628	639	937	794	1,049
4th „	1,223	771	669	1,125	782	1,156	1,143	628	673	937	794	1,064
QUEENSLAND—INDEX-NUMBERS.												
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.*	Mt. Gambier.	Petersburg.	Weighted Average, S.A.
1912	804	800	705	601	803	777	1,160	576	731	650	803	1,087
1913	863	751	758	592	719	814	1,125	588	785	678	903	1,063
1914	882	753	762	589	659	826	1,040	602	780	724	922	992
1915	859	744	759	586	629	808	932	612	615	718	848	891
1916	847	705	766	584	642	796	930	660	769	731	760	899
1917	859	724	786	632	711	815	959	701	824	716	760	928
1912 1st Qtr.	802	829	690	611	802	777	1,165	589	724	641	805	1,091
2nd „	804	829	690	600	765	777	1,172	589	724	641	805	1,097
3rd „	809	761	710	597	912	780	1,160	587	733	652	805	1,086
4th „	802	780	730	597	732	773	1,145	585	737	667	796	1,075
1913 1st Qtr.	840	779	748	587	762	801	1,148	573	758	667	844	1,078
2nd „	860	763	760	594	752	815	1,147	592	772	676	895	1,080
3rd „	860	737	760	595	715	812	1,116	589	800	672	936	1,056
4th „	891	726	763	593	647	830	1,093	596	808	695	936	1,038
1914 1st Qtr.	882	740	757	588	647	824	1,075	579	823	703	936	1,023
2nd „	891	745	756	592	647	831	1,069	613	844	722	940	1,021
3rd „	890	763	766	585	676	833	1,052	624	844	737	943	1,008
4th „	865	763	767	585	667	816	962	594	607	735	869	917
1915 1st Qtr.	853	738	767	587	627	804	942	588	607	713	865	899
2nd „	866	755	766	585	630	814	924	584	607	718	865	883
3rd „	860	753	752	585	629	809	929	640	607	717	869	890
4th „	859	729	782	585	630	805	931	634	638	722	794	892
1916 1st Qtr.	841	730	752	580	630	793	928	651	686	727	760	892
2nd „	844	700	770	585	630	795	929	661	764	733	760	898
3rd „	848	670	770	585	624	794	931	661	813	734	760	902
4th „	853	719	770	585	683	804	934	669	813	732	760	905
1917 1st Qtr.	855	717	786	620	684	810	953	677	818	713	760	921
2nd „	861	728	786	623	698	815	953	706	826	713	760	923
3rd „	861	728	786	636	716	817	960	708	826	711	760	930
4th „	859	723	786	649	744	817	969	714	826	726	760	938

See Remarks re House Rents on p. 41.

House Rents. Index-Numbers for Each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average of Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000)—cont.

	WESTERN AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						TASMANIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						Weighted Average 30 Towns, C'wealth.
	Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Mitford and Guildford.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Zeehan.	Beaconsfield.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.	
1912	880	843	757	674	1,033	866	829	819	450	291	557	769	1,063 994
1913	928	786	814	696	1,077	892	887	826	442	264	557	804	1,118 1,042
1914	914	770	790	707	1,117	879	914	847	335	251	614	820	1,135 1,054
1915	848	809	757	641	995	834	928	879	299	244	673	839	1,081 1,006
1916	869	838	732	567	970	851	928	893	296	208	686	843	1,080 1,008
1917	874	836	708	537	953	852	951	895	288	200	627	882	1,098 1,026
1912 1st Qtr.	850	865	721	675	1,009	847	812	821	450	301	562	761	1,025 962
2nd "	859	865	727	675	1,009	854	817	821	450	301	562	764	1,056 986
3rd "	900	830	785	670	1,083	879	841	810	450	287	553	772	1,089 1,013
4th "	913	814	796	677	1,029	884	847	824	451	273	549	779	1,088 1,014
1913 1st Qtr.	914	839	811	682	1,063	891	902	823	461	264	558	809	1,102 1,028
2nd "	924	773	815	691	1,082	886	888	825	461	264	556	802	1,117 1,041
3rd "	930	774	815	697	1,080	891	884	827	461	264	552	800	1,120 1,045
4th "	947	760	814	715	1,084	900	901	828	383	264	563	806	1,135 1,055
1914 1st Qtr.	921	764	795	712	1,130	883	904	834	375	264	560	809	1,135 1,056
2nd "	923	770	795	724	1,151	886	911	843	348	248	622	817	1,148 1,068
3rd "	917	770	795	702	1,177	882	919	856	312	248	638	825	1,147 1,067
4th "	896	770	775	690	1,011	862	924	856	305	244	636	827	1,110 1,027
1915 1st Qtr.	869	806	756	693	1,019	851	923	856	300	244	636	827	1,088 1,010
2nd "	843	817	753	658	992	833	929	887	300	244	686	843	1,081 1,006
3rd "	839	804	759	641	987	826	929	887	300	244	686	843	1,078 1,003
4th "	842	807	759	572	981	827	931	887	297	244	686	844	1,077 1,003
1916 1st Qtr.	870	838	738	569	978	852	920	892	290	210	686	838	1,077 1,004
2nd "	869	837	734	569	969	851	924	893	291	210	686	841	1,078 1,006
3rd "	868	839	736	570	972	851	928	893	301	210	686	843	1,080 1,010
4th "	868	839	719	559	959	849	940	891	301	210	686	843	1,084 1,014
1917 1st Qtr.	872	835	711	542	959	851	945	892	301	198	628	848	1,092 1,021
2nd "	872	837	707	542	950	851	951	893	290	199	628	851	1,092 1,021
3rd "	875	837	707	536	950	852	953	895	280	199	626	852	1,099 1,027
4th "	875	837	708	526	952	853	956	899	280	205	626	855	1,109 1,036

Purchasing-Power of Money. (Food, Groceries and House Rent Combined). Index-Numbers for each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

N.S.W.—INDEX-NUMBERS.

	N.S.W.—INDEX-NUMBERS.						VICTORIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.						Weighted Average Victoria.
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.*	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, N.S.W.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warran- bowl.		
1912	1,148	955	1,080	1,042	919	1,125	1,055	914	926	996	935	935	1,033
1913	1,178	986	1,110	1,087	950	1,155	1,051	865	900	972	934	934	1,023
1914	1,206	994	1,068	1,130	987	1,179	1,105	904	922	1,012	959	959	1,073
1915	1,323	1,147	1,087	1,274	1,104	1,295	1,277	1,111	1,110	1,182	1,157	1,249	
1916	1,394	1,208	1,282	1,350	1,178	1,370	1,309	1,126	1,118	1,233	1,185	1,279	
1917	1,407	1,222	1,315	1,338	1,193	1,383	1,294	1,083	1,093	1,221	1,168	1,262	
1912 1st Qtr.	1,069	901	1,022	989	857	1,049	987	865	853	937	890	966	
2nd "	1,123	923	1,049	1,011	893	1,099	1,041	901	922	981	929	1,020	
3rd "	1,209	997	1,103	1,045	959	1,181	1,105	939	962	1,031	959	1,083	
4th "	1,194	1,000	1,140	1,123	965	1,171	1,080	952	968	1,036	963	1,065	
1913 1st Qtr.	1,171	980	1,093	1,086	935	1,148	1,049	878	923	992	940	940	1,025
2nd "	1,192	1,001	1,130	1,120	956	1,170	1,059	878	920	984	947	947	1,033
3rd "	1,176	988	1,105	1,074	954	1,153	1,053	857	886	962	930	930	1,023
4th "	1,174	977	1,111	1,069	956	1,151	1,043	846	867	947	920	920	1,012
1914 1st Qtr.	1,201	976	1,109	1,102	979	1,174	1,066	870	891	952	940	940	1,034
2nd "	1,214	1,001	1,158	1,142	1,008	1,190	1,128	907	936	1,040	965	965	1,095
3rd "	1,208	998	1,125	1,129	988	1,183	1,120	920	932	1,020	964	964	1,088
4th "	1,203	1,001	879	1,146	975	1,189	1,106	920	930	1,035	969	969	1,077
1915 1st Qtr.	1,229	1,060	968	1,169	1,013	1,201	1,147	970	976	1,055	1,008	1,118	
2nd "	1,259	1,095	1,066	1,217	1,056	1,234	1,261	1,094	1,088	1,155	1,135	1,232	
3rd "	1,406	1,213	1,184	1,346	1,173	1,375	1,377	1,219	1,230	1,278	1,271	1,351	
4th "	1,400	1,219	1,181	1,364	1,172	1,372	1,322	1,162	1,147	1,237	1,214	1,295	
1916 1st Qtr.	1,419	1,223	1,212	1,336	1,172	1,389	1,337	1,148	1,151	1,254	1,203	1,306	
2nd "	1,393	1,202	1,263	1,362	1,185	1,368	1,319	1,146	1,136	1,258	1,196	1,291	
3rd "	1,388	1,212	1,325	1,361	1,180	1,368	1,300	1,116	1,095	1,224	1,184	1,269	
4th "	1,374	1,197	1,327	1,341	1,175	1,354	1,280	1,092	1,093	1,195	1,153	1,249	
1917 1st Qtr.	1,381	1,211	1,322	1,352	1,178	1,361	1,280	1,083	1,077	1,213	1,159	1,249	
2nd "	1,386	1,217	1,331	1,334	1,188	1,366	1,288	1,084	1,100	1,232	1,171	1,258	
3rd "	1,434	1,229	1,298	1,322	1,197	1,406	1,300	1,078	1,096	1,221	1,172	1,266	
4th "	1,425	1,233	1,308	1,344	1,208	1,400	1,308	1,087	1,098	1,219	1,169	1,273	

* See remarks re House Rent on page 41.

Purchasing-Power of Money. (Food, Groceries and House Rent Combined.)
 Index-Numbers for each of Thirty Towns, with Weighted Average for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (=1000).—cont.

	QUEENSLAND—INDEX-NUMBERS.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.							
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Charters Towers.	Warwick.	Weighted Average, Queensland.	Adelaide.	Kadina.	Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.*	Mt. Gambier.	Petersburg.	Weighted Average, S.A.	
1912	979	977	962	1,008	1,004	981	1,157	917	1,004	874	1,014	1,126		
1913	969	924	940	957	928	959	1,121	913	1,006	880	1,024	1,096		
1914	997	950	988	988	912	988	1,143	960	1,055	923	1,126	1,122		
1915	1,162	1,133	1,154	1,151	1,067	1,155	1,259	1,139	1,172	1,109	1,234	1,243		
1916	1,188	1,133	1,216	1,182	1,102	1,182	1,285	1,204	1,261	1,165	1,251	1,275		
1917	1,181	1,116	1,163	1,187	1,124	1,172	1,245	1,193	1,269	1,132	1,226	1,239		
1912 1st Qtr.	975	998	970	1,014	995	980	1,127	895	982	838	993	1,096		
2nd „	976	989	960	1,009	995	979	1,157	918	1,006	862	999	1,126		
3rd „	984	954	955	1,001	1,058	981	1,183	935	1,009	894	1,032	1,146		
4th „	984	966	967	1,010	965	982	1,164	943	1,017	904	1,030	1,135		
1913 1st Qtr.	956	920	934	968	949	951	1,133	907	992	874	1,000	1,104		
2nd „	978	930	945	969	966	969	1,146	927	1,014	889	1,026	1,118		
3rd „	966	923	932	947	917	955	1,116	912	1,013	888	1,043	1,092		
4th „	976	922	948	945	879	962	1,092	904	1,005	868	1,025	1,069		
1914 1st Qtr.	977	939	965	959	908	969	1,118	913	1,022	896	1,072	1,094		
2nd „	990	928	973	983	898	979	1,176	989	1,086	925	1,147	1,183		
3rd „	1,005	943	999	978	912	993	1,156	981	1,103	932	1,164	1,137		
4th „	1,018	992	1,014	1,029	930	1,013	1,122	957	1,009	940	1,120	1,102		
1915 1st Qtr.	1,053	1,026	1,058	1,079	977	1,051	1,162	1,024	1,075	993	1,152	1,145		
2nd „	1,132	1,111	1,116	1,155	1,060	1,128	1,267	1,136	1,164	1,117	1,248	1,250		
3rd „	1,208	1,183	1,173	1,153	1,096	1,194	1,325	1,220	1,235	1,177	1,304	1,310		
4th „	1,255	1,212	1,269	1,218	1,133	1,245	1,282	1,174	1,212	1,148	1,234	1,268		
1916 1st Qtr.	1,259	1,216	1,289	1,227	1,156	1,252	1,295	1,205	1,253	1,171	1,253	1,283		
2nd „	1,205	1,144	1,247	1,209	1,107	1,201	1,309	1,220	1,282	1,192	1,272	1,299		
3rd „	1,147	1,090	1,169	1,142	1,065	1,141	1,278	1,202	1,256	1,162	1,245	1,269		
4th „	1,140	1,083	1,160	1,147	1,077	1,135	1,257	1,188	1,251	1,134	1,231	1,249		
1917 1st Qtr.	1,146	1,065	1,138	1,163	1,068	1,137	1,261	1,200	1,269	1,128	1,231	1,253		
2nd „	1,163	1,095	1,153	1,181	1,096	1,154	1,257	1,216	1,285	1,142	1,246	1,252		
3rd „	1,189	1,126	1,171	1,189	1,142	1,180	1,221	1,171	1,254	1,122	1,208	1,216		
4th „	1,225	1,179	1,190	1,215	1,191	1,215	1,242	1,183	1,267	1,134	1,219	1,236		
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—INDEX-NUMBERS.														
Perth.	Kalgoorlie.	Midland Junction and Guildford.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, W.A.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Zeehan.	Beaconsfield.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, Tasmania.	Weighted Average, 6 Capital Towns.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, C'wealth.	
1912	1,154	1,334	1,123	1,104	1,255	1,191	1,042	999	952	827	988	1,012	1,101	1,080
1913	1,128	1,291	1,101	1,082	1,259	1,158	1,053	971	928	804	989	1,007	1,104	1,080
1914	1,143	1,291	1,104	1,111	1,315	1,175	1,090	1,014	898	813	1,021	1,041	1,140	1,113
1915	1,122	1,398	1,204	1,194	1,386	1,261	1,233	1,190	1,048	991	1,208	1,199	1,278	1,255
1916	1,266	1,418	1,226	1,214	1,372	1,297	1,278	1,253	1,095	1,034	1,260	1,251	1,324	1,301
1917	1,246	1,398	1,186	1,193	1,349	1,275	1,301	1,258	1,083	1,034	1,228	1,261	1,294	
1912 1st Qtr.	1,116	1,333	1,068	1,082	1,203	1,160	978	939	907	761	933	951	1,038	1,023
2nd „	1,184	1,373	1,146	1,126	1,266	1,222	1,010	991	937	806	980	991	1,087	1,068
3rd „	1,176	1,326	1,150	1,120	1,291	1,210	1,073	1,023	968	846	1,017	1,040	1,146	1,120
4th „	1,143	1,306	1,130	1,087	1,265	1,177	1,107	1,039	997	894	1,022	1,066	1,130	1,110
1913 1st Qtr.	1,126	1,284	1,098	1,075	1,252	1,159	1,053	964	931	805	983	1,005	1,101	1,078
2nd „	1,145	1,272	1,121	1,091	1,273	1,172	1,064	981	947	819	1,012	1,019	1,117	1,093
3rd „	1,118	1,274	1,100	1,087	1,261	1,152	1,053	979	935	812	986	1,010	1,103	1,078
4th „	1,123	1,249	1,085	1,076	1,251	1,149	1,041	959	899	782	975	994	1,096	1,071
1914 1st Qtr.	1,112	1,245	1,069	1,076	1,288	1,141	1,056	976	887	785	987	1,008	1,117	1,090
2nd „	1,143	1,269	1,101	1,106	1,314	1,170	1,099	1,014	897	804	1,029	1,046	1,154	1,127
3rd „	1,164	1,314	1,125	1,131	1,357	1,197	1,091	1,025	891	828	1,034	1,046	1,146	1,124
4th „	1,152	1,334	1,121	1,131	1,301	1,191	1,112	1,041	916	834	1,034	1,064	1,140	1,113
1915 1st Qtr.	1,193	1,361	1,178	1,158	1,359	1,231	1,141	1,073	934	867	1,088	1,095	1,174	1,151
2nd „	1,235	1,394	1,211	1,211	1,402	1,270	1,214	1,159	1,012	938	1,179	1,174	1,247	1,226
3rd „	1,255	1,439	1,237	1,238	1,413	1,296	1,290	1,265	1,132	1,071	1,271	1,264	1,353	1,333
4th „	1,206	1,399	1,188	1,170	1,370	1,248	1,286	1,262	1,114	1,083	1,293	1,262	1,333	1,310
1916 1st Qtr.	1,243	1,418	1,206	1,182	1,390	1,280	1,317	1,276	1,116	1,045	1,276	1,281	1,350	1,325
2nd „	1,278	1,419	1,219	1,208	1,386	1,305	1,296	1,274	1,115	1,059	1,284	1,270	1,333	1,310
3rd „	1,287	1,435	1,257	1,257	1,375	1,318	1,259	1,236	1,087	1,032	1,256	1,234	1,316	1,294
4th „	1,252	1,402	1,219	1,206	1,335	1,282	1,242	1,224	1,062	1,005	1,224	1,217	1,300	1,276
1917 1st Qtr.	1,242	1,377	1,191	1,194	1,342	1,269	1,245	1,066	1,004	1,198	1,236	1,302	1,279	
2nd „	1,274	1,393	1,217	1,239	1,351	1,297	1,263	1,243	1,068	1,021	1,213	1,235	1,309	1,287
3rd „	1,234	1,399	1,171	1,204	1,345	1,267	1,295	1,253	1,076	1,041	1,236	1,257	1,328	1,301
4th „	1,232	1,424	1,166	1,186	1,359	1,269	1,377	1,289	1,122	1,068	1,264	1,317	1,334	1,310

* See remarks re House Rent on page 41.

(i.) *Food and Groceries (46 commodities).*—Information as to variations in prices of Group I. (Groceries), Group II. (Dairy Produce), and Group III. (Meat) are collected monthly, and in the tables on pp. 32 to 34 the index-numbers for the combined expenditure on the three groups are given at yearly, quarterly, and monthly intervals.

(ii.) *House Rent.*—Information as to variations in housing accommodation is collected quarterly, and index-numbers at yearly and quarterly periods are given in the tables on pp. 35 and 36.

(iii.) *Food, Groceries, and House Rent combined.*—The tables on pp. 36 and 37 furnish comparisons in the form of index-numbers of the variations in the combined expenditure on the 46 items of food and groceries and housing accommodation at yearly and quarterly periods for 1912 to 1917 inclusive. It should be observed that the index-numbers in these tables are comparable in every respect in so far as they relate to the capital towns with those given on page 27 for the respective groups, and where they relate to the same period are of course identical in both tables. Thus for the years 1912 to 1917 inclusive, the index-numbers for the six capital towns are (as they should be) the same in both sets of tables.

The last columns in each of the above tables refer to the weighted average for the thirty towns. The method of computing these weighted average index-numbers is explained in Report No. 1, page 35. The population weights used in the computations are as follows —

Population Weights used in Computation of Index-Numbers shewing Cost of Living in different Towns, with weighted average for all Towns as Base (= 1000).

Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney . .	633	Melbourne	590	Brisbane	140	Adelaide	190	Perth, etc.	105	Hobart	42
Newcastle	62	Ballarat	53	T'woomba	20	Kadina,etc	12	Kalg'lie,etc	31	Launceston	25
Br'ken Hill	31	Bendigo	44	R'k'mton	21	Pt. Pirie	11	Mid.Jn.,etc	7	Q'nstown	5
Goulburn	13	Geelong	34	Chts Twrs	17	Mt.Gamb'r	7	Bunbury	4	Zeehan	4
Bathurst	9	W'nambo'l	9	Warwick	6	Petersburg	3	Geraldton	4	Beac'nfield	3

(iv.) *Care to Avoid Erroneous Comparisons.*—It is, of course, obvious that the index-numbers given in the separate parts of the table cannot be directly compared with each other, in order to shew the relative cost of (say) house rent and groceries and food, since the weighted average cost in 1911 is in each case made equal to 1000, although the cost is, of course, not the same.

7. **Relative Cost of Food and Groceries and Housing Accommodation in Different Towns, 1917.**—The figures given in the following table shew the relative index-numbers for 1917 in the thirty towns for which particulars are regularly collected. The index-numbers are comparable in all respects, and further, it will be observed that the index-numbers in the last column of the table are identical for each town with

those given in the table on pages 36-7 for the year 1917. The first column gives the relative expenditure on groceries and food. The second, third, fourth, and fifth columns give comparative information with regard to expenditure on house rent for houses of four, five, and six rooms, and for all houses respectively, while the remaining columns give similar information for food and groceries, combined with house rent of each class of house indicated.

1917.—Index-Numbers, shewing Relative Cost in each of Thirty Towns, of Food and Groceries and House Rent (including 4, 5, and 6-roomed Houses, and all Houses), compared with Weighted Average Expenditure on Groceries, Food and Rent (all Houses) in the Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

TOWN.	Groceries and Food.	HOUSE RENT.				GROCERIES, FOOD AND RENT, INCLUDING HOUSES HAVING—			
		Four-roomed Houses only.	Five-roomed Houses only.	Six-roomed Houses only.	All Houses Weighted Average.	Four Rooms.	Five Rooms.	Six Rooms.	All Houses Weighted Average.
NEW SOUTH WALES—									
Sydney	907	389	470	550	500	1,296	1,377	1,457	1,407
Newcastle	906	240	326	404	316	1,146	1,232	1,310	1,222
Broken Hill*	1,047	242	322	391	268	1,289	1,369	1,438	1,315
Goulburn	878	306	402	545	460	1,184	1,280	1,423	1,338
Bathurst	874	215	289	377	319	1,089	1,163	1,251	1,193
Weighted Average ..	912	367	449	529	471	1,279	1,361	1,441	1,383
VICTORIA—									
Melbourne	832	330	421	518	462	1,162	1,253	1,350	1,294
Ballarat	825	143	217	290	258	968	1,042	1,115	1,083
Bendigo	829	172	230	329	264	1,001	1,059	1,158	1,093
Geelong	836	226	331	449	385	1,062	1,167	1,285	1,221
Warrnambool	842	236	311	369	326	1,078	1,153	1,211	1,168
Weighted Average ..	832	301	388	485	430	1,132	1,220	1,317	1,262
QUEENSLAND—									
Brisbane	828	225	293	394	353	1,053	1,121	1,222	1,181
Toowoomba	819	180	241	282	297	999	1,060	1,101	1,116
Rockhampton	840	204	260	343	323	1,044	1,100	1,183	1,163
Charters Towers	927	207	267	335	260	1,134	1,194	1,262	1,187
Warwick	832	156	229	325	292	988	1,061	1,157	1,124
Weighted Average ..	837	215	280	370	335	1,052	1,117	1,207	1,172
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—									
Adelaide	851	291	385	486	394	1,142	1,236	1,337	1,245
Moonta, etc.	904	194	291	372	289	1,098	1,195	1,276	1,193
Port Pirie*	930	299	361	408	339	1,229	1,291	1,338	1,269
Mt. Gambier	838	216	263	356	294	1,054	1,101	1,194	1,132
Petersburg	914	237	316	369	312	1,151	1,230	1,283	1,226
Weighted Average ..	858	283	374	471	381	1,141	1,232	1,329	1,239
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—									
Perth	887	302	374	459	359	1,189	1,261	1,346	1,246
Kalgoorlie, etc.	1,054	358	443	526	344	1,412	1,497	1,580	1,398
Mid. Junction	895	232	307	366	291	1,127	1,202	1,261	1,186
Bunbury	973	217	271	330	220	1,190	1,244	1,303	1,193
Geraldton	958	357	450	549	391	1,315	1,408	1,507	1,349
Weighted Average ..	926	310	385	467	349	1,236	1,311	1,393	1,275
TASMANIA—									
Hobart	910	307	374	452	391	1,217	1,284	1,362	1,301
Launceston	890	256	354	422	368	1,146	1,244	1,312	1,258
Zeehan	965	125	161	197	118	1,090	1,126	1,162	1,083
Beaconsfield	951	66	84	108	83	1,017	1,035	1,059	1,034
Queenstown	970	278	323	376	258	1,248	1,293	1,346	1,228
Weighted Average ..	912	271	342	412	349	1,183	1,254	1,324	1,261
Commonwealth Weighted Average ..	873	313	395	483	421	1,186	1,268	1,356	1,294

* See Remarks on page 41 with reference to house rents.

The weighted average for all houses is obtained separately for each of the thirty towns by "weighting" the rent paid for each class of house by the number of houses in each respective class in each town. If houses of only one particular size are included, different results may be obtained. This is evident when it is remembered that the distribution of houses according to number of rooms is substantially different in some of the towns; that is to say, there are a greater number of large, and therefore of relatively more expensive, houses in some towns than in others, and *vice versa*, and consequently the weighted average rents in the former class of town refer to a larger size of house than in the latter class. Separate results are accordingly given for the several classes of houses specified in the table.

The figures in the last four columns furnish results for expenditure on groceries and food, combined with expenditure on rent, for each of the three classes of houses indicated, and also for the weighted average for all houses.

Some few words as to the proper interpretation of the preceding table may not be out of place. The total cost of living in each town for food and groceries, as well as the average rental paid, is multiplied by a number representing the population of the town, and a weighted average expenditure for all towns is thus computed. The weights used are given on page 38. The relative expenditure in each town for (a) food and groceries, (b) house rents, and (c) food, groceries, and house rent combined, is shewn, the base of the table being the weighted average expenditure in the six capital towns for 1911 = 1000. Thus in each horizontal line the sum of the index-number for food and groceries and that for rent of houses of each specified size is equal to the index-number for food, groceries, and house rent combined, taking the corresponding house-rent group. The table is comparable in all respects, and in addition shews the proportionate cost of food and groceries and of rent. For example, taking the last line in the table on the preceding page, it may be seen that taking the weighted average expenditure for all the towns on food, groceries, and average rents to be £1294, the expenditure on food and groceries alone is £873 (1st column), and the average rental £421 (5th column), the sum of the two latter amounts being £1294. Again, if it be desired to ascertain the relative expenditure for food and groceries and rent of four-roomed houses, it will be found the figures are £873 and £313, which, together amount to £1186 (6th column). In addition to shewing the relative cost of food and groceries and house rent (for different classes of houses) in each town individually, the table also furnishes comparisons as to the relative cost of these items as between the several towns. Thus taking food and groceries only (1st column), it may be seen that commodities which would cost £907 in Sydney can be purchased for £832 in Melbourne, or £851 in Adelaide. Again, taking the combined expenditure on food, groceries, and house rent for houses of five rooms (7th column), it will be seen that an expenditure of £1253 in Melbourne is equivalent to an expenditure of £1377 in Sydney, £1236 in Adelaide, £1497 in Kalgoorlie, or £1408 in Geraldton.

The index-numbers are reversible, and may be used for comparisons as to purchasing-power of money as between any of the towns included. Thus if it be ascertained that the average rental of five-roomed houses in Melbourne is, say, 16s. weekly, and the average rental of the same class of house in Sydney is required, all that is necessary is to multiply the rental in Melbourne by the index-number for five-roomed houses in Sydney and divide by the index-number for Melbourne (3rd column), 16s. Od. $\times \frac{470}{421} = 17s. 10d.$, which will be found to be the average rental of five-roomed houses in Sydney (see Appendix II.).

(i.) *Food and Groceries*.—As regards food and groceries it may be seen that the weighted average of the five towns was above the weighted average for all towns for 1917 in New South Wales, Western Australia and Tasmania, and lower in the remaining States. The most expensive towns are Kalgoorlie in Western Australia, and Broken Hill in New South Wales, Kalgoorlie being 20.7 per cent., and Broken Hill 19.9 per cent. above the weighted average for all towns.

(ii.) *House Rent*.—It will be seen that taking house-rents of any size of house given, or of the weighted average of all houses, Sydney, Melbourne, Goulburn and Geraldton are the most expensive towns, while Beaconsfield and Zeehan, in Tasmania, are the cheapest.

With reference to house-rents in Broken Hill and Port Pirie, it is necessary to observe that for some time after the outbreak of war a number of houses were occupied at purely nominal or reduced rentals by families of which the wage-earner was out of employment. It was not until the latter half of 1916 that enquiries elicited the fact that normal conditions again obtained. It must be borne in mind, therefore, that for the years 1914, 1915 and 1916 the average rents in these towns have been computed in accordance with special investigations which have been made each quarter.

(iii.) *Food and Groceries and House Rent combined*.—The last column in the foregoing table shews the relative cost according to average prices of the commodities and housing accommodation in each town during 1917. It may be seen that the average cost was greatest in Sydney, followed by Kalgoorlie, Geraldton and Goulburn. The index-number for Sydney was 8.8 per cent., Kalgoorlie 8.0 per cent., Geraldton, 4.2 per cent., and Goulburn 3.4 per cent. above the weighted average cost for all towns. The cost was least in Zeehan and Beaconsfield, 16.3 and 20.1 per cent. respectively below the weighted average cost for all towns.

8. **Purchasing-Power of Money**.—In the following table the average cost for the six capital towns in the year 1911 has again been taken as base. This base has been taken as equal to 20s. instead of 1000 as in the former tables. The figures shew the variations in purchasing-power of money from year to year in each town separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several towns in each year (in the horizontal lines). It may be seen, for instance, that 20s. 7d. in Sydney in 1911 was equivalent to 18s. 4d. in Brisbane, or 19s. 1d. in Hobart; or that 25s. 9d. in Melbourne for the second quarter of 1917 was equivalent to 15s. 5d. in Brisbane in 1901, or 22s. 6d. in Perth in 1913.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1918 (1st Quarter) to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.*

Year,	Sydney.	Melb'rne		Brisbane		Adelaide		Perth.		Hobart.		Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.		
1901	..	17	10	17	5	15	5	17	3	20	6	17	7
1902	..	19	7	18	1	16	0	17	3	21	7	17	10
1903	..	19	2	17	7	15	9	16	9	21	8	17	11
1904	..	17	5	17	1	14	8	16	3	20	10	17	1
1905	..	18	9	17	7	15	5	17	6	20	11	17	9
1906	..	18	8	17	7	15	7	17	10	20	5	18	0
1907	..	18	6	17	6	15	11	17	11	19	9	17	11
1908	..	19	9	18	6	17	1	19	1	20	0	18	5
1909	..	19	9	18	1	17	0	19	10	19	9	19	0
1910	..	19	11	18	10	17	6	20	2	20	6	19	0
1911	..	20	7	19	0	18	4	21	2	22	6	19	1
1912	..	22	11	21	1	19	7	23	2	23	1	20	10
1913	..	23	7	21	0	19	5	22	5	22	6	21	1
1914	..	24	1	22	1	19	11	22	10	22	10	21	10
1915	..	26	6	25	6	23	3	25	2	24	5	24	8
1916	..	27	10	26	2	23	9	25	8	25	4	25	7
1917	..	28	1	25	11	23	7	24	11	24	11	26	0
1912	1st Quarter	21	4	19	9	19	6	22	6	22	4	19	7
	2nd	22	5	20	10	19	6	23	2	23	8	20	2
	3rd	24	1	22	1	19	8	23	8	23	6	21	5
	4th	23	10	21	8	19	8	23	3	22	10	22	2
1913	1st	23	5	21	0	19	1	22	8	22	6	21	1
	2nd	23	10	21	2	19	7	22	11	22	11	21	3
	3rd	23	6	21	1	19	4	22	4	22	4	21	1
	4th	23	6	20	10	19	6	21	10	22	5	20	10
1914	1st	24	0	21	4	19	7	22	4	22	3	21	1
	2nd	24	3	22	7	19	9	23	6	22	10	22	0
	3rd	24	2	22	5	20	1	23	2	23	3	21	10
	4th	24	1	22	1	20	4	22	5	23	0	22	3
1915	1st	24	7	22	11	21	1	23	3	23	10	22	10
	2nd	25	2	25	3	22	8	25	4	24	8	24	3
	3rd	28	1	27	6	24	2	26	6	25	1	25	10
	4th	28	0	26	5	25	1	25	8	24	1	25	9
1916	1st	28	4	26	9	25	2	25	11	24	10	26	4
	2nd	27	10	26	5	24	1	26	2	25	7	25	11
	3rd	27	9	26	0	22	11	25	7	25	9	25	2
	4th	27	6	25	7	22	10	25	2	25	1	24	10
1917	1st	27	7	25	7	22	11	25	3	24	10	25	4
	2nd	27	9	25	9	23	3	25	2	25	6	25	3
	3rd	28	8	26	0	23	9	24	5	24	8	25	11
	4th	28	6	26	2	24	6	24	10	24	8	27	6
1918	1st	28	6	26	6	24	4	25	11	24	8	27	3

* These results are based upon the regimen referred to on pp. 20-2 Labour Report No. 6.

† Basis of Table.

(i.) *Groceries and Food only.*—The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to *groceries and food* (46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table (=20s.); and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

Purchasing-Power of Money.—Groceries and Food only.—Amount necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1918 (1st Quarter) to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.*

Year	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 ..	18 4	19 4	19 4	20 7	23 8	20 3	19 4
1902 ..	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 6	25 6	21 0	21 1
1903 ..	20 7	19 6	19 9	19 8	25 8	21 1	20 4
1904 ..	17 6	18 4	17 10	18 10	24 3	19 8	18 5
1905 ..	19 5	19 1	18 11	19 10	25 2	20 7	19 8
1906 ..	19 3	18 11	19 2	19 8	24 9	20 11	19 7
1907 ..	18 9	18 6	18 11	19 0	23 11	20 2	19 1
1908 ..	20 7	19 11	20 6	20 2	24 6	21 1	20 7
1909 ..	20 3	19 0	19 8	20 6	24 3	21 10	20 1
1910 ..	20 0	19 2	20 0	20 0	25 0	21 6	20 1
1911 ..	19 9	18 8	20 4	20 5	26 11	21 2	20 0†
1912 ..	22 6	21 8	22 0	23 1	26 11	23 10	22 6
1913 ..	22 8	20 6	20 10	22 5	25 4	23 3	21 11
1914 ..	23 1	21 10	21 7	24 4	26 0	24 3	22 11
1915 ..	27 11	28 3	27 6	29 9	29 8	28 11	28 4
1916 ..	30 5	29 3	28 6	30 8	30 10	30 5	29 11
1917 ..	30 10	28 3	28 2	28 11	30 1	30 11	29 5
	1st Qt'r	20 9	19 9	21 11	22 0	26 0	21 10
1912 {	2nd "	21 10	21 5	21 11	22 11	28 2	22 11
	3rd "	23 11	23 2	22 1	23 10	27 4	24 8
	4th "	23 6	22 3	22 3	23 6	26 1	25 9
1913 {	1st "	22 9	20 9	20 9	22 5	25 6	23 2
	2nd "	23 2	20 10	21 2	22 11	26 0	23 9
	3rd "	22 7	20 5	20 10	22 4	25 0	23 5
	4th "	22 1	20 0	20 8	21 10	24 11	22 9
1914 {	1st "	23 0	20 7	20 11	22 11	24 11	23 3
	2nd "	23 3	22 4	21 2	25 0	25 11	24 7
	3rd "	23 1	22 0	21 8	24 7	26 9	24 3
	4th "	23 1	22 4	22 6	24 8	26 7	24 10
1915 {	1st "	24 7	23 9	23 11	26 4	28 5	25 10
	2nd "	25 9	27 8	26 4	30 2	30 2	28 3
	3rd "	30 9	31 8	29 0	32 0	30 11	30 10
	4th "	30 7	29 10	30 8	30 6	29 2	30 8
1916 {	1st "	31 4	30 2	31 0	31 0	30 1	31 10
	2nd "	30 4	29 8	29 1	31 6	31 3	30 2
	3rd "	30 2	29 0	27 1	30 5	31 7	29 9
	4th "	29 8	28 2	26 10	29 8	30 5	29 1
1917 {	1st "	30 0	27 11	27 0	29 6	30 0	29 10
	2nd "	30 1	28 3	27 6	29 4	31 1	29 8
	3rd "	31 9	28 5	28 5	28 1	29 8	30 8
	4th "	31 4	28 5	29 7	28 8	29 7	33 5
1918 1st ,	31 1	28 11	28 11	30 3	29 7	33 2	30 0

* These results are based upon the regimen referred to on pp. 20-2 Labour Report No. 6.

† Basis of Table.

(ii.) *House Rent Only*.—The following table gives similar particulars for *house rent only*, the average for the six towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.):—

Purchasing-Power of Money.—House Rent.—Amount payable on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1918 (1st Quarter) for House Rent in each Capital Town, compared with a Rent of £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.

Year.	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 ..	17 3	14 8	9 9	12 7	16 0	13 4	15 1
1902 ..	17 3	14 11	9 10	12 7	15 11	13 5	15 2
1903 ..	17 4	14 11	10 1	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 3
1904 ..	17 5	15 3	10 2	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 4
1905 ..	17 10	15 5	10 5	14 0	14 9	13 7	15 8
1906 ..	17 11	15 8	10 6	15 3	14 4	13 9	15 11
1907 ..	18 4	16 1	11 6	16 3	13 8	14 2	16 4
1908 ..	18 7	16 7	12 4	17 5	13 7	14 7	16 10
1909 ..	19 2	16 10	13 3	18 10	13 4	15 0	17 5
1910 ..	19 10	18 4	14 0	20 4	13 11	15 6	18 5
1911 ..	21 10	19 5	15 4	22 3	16 3	16 1	20 0*
1912 ..	23 8	20 4	16 1	23 2	17 7	16 7	21 3
1913 ..	24 11	21 10	17 3	22 6	18 7	17 10	22 4
1914 ..	25 7	22 6	17 8	20 10	18 3	18 3	22 8
1915 ..	24 5	21 8	17 2	18 8	17 0	18 7	21 7
1916 ..	24 3	21 9	17 0	18 7	17 4	18 7	21 7
1917 ..	24 3	22 6	17 5	19 2	17 5	19 0	22 0
1912	1st Qt'r	22 4	19 8	16 0	23 3	17 0	16 3
	2nd "	23 4	20 0	16 1	23 5	17 2	16 4
	3rd "	24 7	20 7	16 2	23 5	18 0	16 10
	4th "	24 4	20 11	16 0	22 11	18 3	16 11
1913	1st "	24 5	21 4	16 10	22 11	18 3	18 0
	2nd "	24 10	21 9	17 2	22 11	18 6	17 9
	3rd "	24 11	22 0	17 3	22 3	18 7	17 8
	4th "	25 6	22 1	17 10	21 10	18 11	18 0
1914	1st "	25 6	22 5	17 8	21 6	18 5	18 1
	2nd "	25 9	22 10	17 10	21 5	18 5	18 3
	3rd "	25 8	22 11	17 10	21 1	18 4	18 5
	4th "	25 5	21 10	17 4	19 3	17 11	18 6
1915	1st "	24 7	21 10	17 1	18 10	17 5	18 6
	2nd "	24 5	21 9	17 4	18 6	16 11	18 7
	3rd "	24 5	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7
	4th "	24 3	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7
1916	1st "	24 2	21 9	16 10	18 7	17 5	18 5
	2nd "	24 3	21 8	16 11	18 7	17 5	18 6
	3rd "	24 3	21 9	17 0	18 7	17 4	18 7
	4th "	24 3	21 11	17 2	18 8	17 4	18 10
1917	1st "	24 3	22 3	17 10	19 1	17 5	18 11
	2nd "	24 3	22 3	17 3	19 1	17 5	19 0
	3rd "	24 2	22 7	17 3	19 2	17 6	19 1
	4th "	24 6	22 10	17 2	19 5	17 6	19 1
1918 1st ..	24 9	23 1	17 8	19 8	17 8	18 10	22 5

* Basis of Table.

9. Monthly Fluctuations in Retail Prices of Food and Groceries, July, 1914, to May, 1918.—The following table has been prepared in order to shew the variations in retail prices of food and groceries since July, 1914, the last month prior to the outbreak of war. Particulars for each town are given in the form of index-numbers for food and groceries in each of the months specified. In the last column the percentage increase is shewn for each town in May, 1918, compared with July, 1914. It is necessary to observe that the index-numbers given in the following table are computed to the same base as those given in the preceding tables in this section, referring to food and groceries only, viz., the weighted average expenditure in the six capital towns for 1911 is made equal to 1000.

Retail Prices Index-Numbers (Food and Groceries), for each of Thirty Towns for the Months specified, with Weighted Average for Six Capital Towns in 1911 as Base (=1000).†

Particulars.	1914.		1915.		1916.		1917.		1918.		Per cent. increase from July, 1914, to May, 1918.	
	July.	April.	May.	April.	May.	April.	May.	April.	May.			
NEW SOUTH WALES—												
Sydney	1,153	1,252	1,268	1,512	1,509	1,513	1,499	1,552	1,546	34.1		
Newcastle	1,147	1,262	1,285	1,493	1,507	1,527	1,527	1,565	1,576	37.4		
Broken Hill	1,468	1,576	1,575	1,820	1,817	1,806	1,814	1,787	1,848	25.9		
Goulburn	1,183	1,250	1,312	1,543	1,550	1,507	1,476	1,518	1,523	28.7		
Bathurst	1,097	1,221	1,243	1,474	1,479	1,481	1,473	1,512	1,521	38.7		
*Weighted Average ..	1,165	1,265	1,283	1,523	1,522	1,525	1,514	1,562	1,560	33.9		
VICTORIA—												
Melbourne	1,106	1,282	1,386	1,484	1,485	1,410	1,409	1,462	1,486	34.4		
Ballarat	1,103	1,307	1,424	1,496	1,506	1,401	1,406	1,435	1,459	32.3		
Bendigo	1,107	1,313	1,390	1,475	1,482	1,403	1,432	1,480	1,487	34.3		
Geelong	1,089	1,264	1,350	1,500	1,514	1,446	1,432	1,473	1,481	36.0		
Warrnambool	1,087	1,278	1,404	1,475	1,493	1,431	1,436	1,492	1,514	39.3		
*Weighted Average ..	1,105	1,285	1,388	1,485	1,488	1,411	1,412	1,462	1,484	34.3		
QUEENSLAND—												
Brisbane	1,057	1,289	1,326	1,486	1,491	1,364	1,375	1,472	1,480	40.0		
Toowoomba	1,041	1,323	1,371	1,506	1,457	1,323	1,360	1,434	1,440	38.3		
Rockhampton	1,156	1,306	1,378	1,642	1,613	1,400	1,404	1,505	1,501	29.9		
Charters Towers	1,246	1,510	1,588	1,650	1,644	1,573	1,582	1,685	1,684	35.2		
Warwick	1,083	1,312	1,379	1,467	1,462	1,348	1,369	1,511	1,520	40.4		
*Weighted Average ..	1,082	1,313	1,359	1,517	1,512	1,381	1,394	1,490	1,496	38.3		
SOUTH AUSTRALIA—												
Adelaide	1,250	1,427	1,485	1,549	1,584	1,485	1,480	1,587	1,620	29.6		
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	1,230	1,446	1,488	1,592	1,612	1,570	1,573	1,568	1,595	29.7		
Port Pirie	1,291	1,476	1,530	1,640	1,643	1,600	1,603	1,630	1,657	28.4		
Mt. Gambier	1,064	1,315	1,382	1,532	1,504	1,438	1,445	1,477	1,523	43.1		
Petersburg	1,340	1,433	1,536	1,621	1,622	1,573	1,584	1,597	1,611	20.2		
*Weighted Average ..	1,247	1,427	1,485	1,557	1,586	1,495	1,491	1,585	1,618	29.8		
WESTERN AUSTRALIA—												
Perth	1,340	1,495	1,502	1,513	1,550	1,535	1,586	1,529	1,524	13.7		
Kalgoorlie and Boulder	1,664	1,758	1,806	1,792	1,814	1,740	1,799	1,797	1,791	7.6		
Mid. June. & Guildford	1,354	1,511	1,532	1,529	1,534	1,552	1,598	1,530	1,524	12.6		
Bunbury	1,418	1,575	1,593	1,630	1,608	1,677	1,753	1,633	1,656	16.8		
Geraldton	1,445	1,671	1,689	1,663	1,675	1,621	1,630	1,639	1,633	13.0		
*Weighted Average ..	1,412	1,556	1,573	1,578	1,608	1,584	1,636	1,590	1,585	12.3		
TASMANIA—												
Hobart	1,211	1,391	1,401	1,588	1,551	1,476	1,471	1,641	1,648	36.1		
Launceston	1,144	1,314	1,345	1,564	1,538	1,485	1,478	1,583	1,588	38.8		
Zeehan	1,292	1,420	1,531	1,698	1,683	1,597	1,610	1,717	1,758	36.1		
Beaconsfield	1,230	1,368	1,436	1,674	1,647	1,580	1,587	1,666	1,617	31.5		
Queenstown	1,315	1,467	1,519	1,678	1,697	1,598	1,625	1,704	1,722	31.0		
*Weighted Average ..	1,201	1,372	1,399	1,595	1,566	1,496	1,494	1,632	1,638	36.4		
†Weighted Aver. for Cwth.	1,164	1,318	1,372	1,520	1,524	1,473	1,473	1,528	1,539	32.2		

* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns.

‡ See remarks on page 31 of Labour Report No. 6 with reference to change of base period.

NOTE.—Corresponding index-numbers for the intervening months are given in Labour Reports Nos. 6 and 7, in Labour Bulletins Nos. 17 and 18, and in the Quarterly Summary of Statistics Nos. 70 and 71.

10. Tables of Prices and House Rents, 1917.—While the summarised results of price-movements are published quarterly, the actual data from which such results are obtained are published in full only annually. In appendixes to Report No. 1, particulars were given of prices and house rents in the metropolitan towns in each year from 1901 to 1911, and in appendixes to Report No. 2, particulars were given of average prices

and house rents in 1912 for each of the thirty towns from which returns are collected. In Appendixes I. and II. of Report No. 5 similar particulars were given for the year 1913; in Appendixes I. and III. to Report No. 6 particulars were given of average prices for 1914 and 1915; in Appendixes II. and IV. of the same Report similar information was given in regard to house rents. In Appendixes Nos. I and II of Report No. 7 and in Appendixes Nos. I. and II. hereof, information is given in regard to average prices and house rents respectively for the year 1916 and 1917.

11. Increase in Cost of Food and Groceries and House Rent, 1917, compared with previous years.—The following tables have been prepared in order to shew for each capital town (i.) the total increase (or decrease) in the cost of food, groceries, and house rent combined in 1917 compared with each preceding year since 1901, and (ii.) amount of the percentage increase (or decrease) due to variations (a) in prices of food and groceries, and (b) in house rent. The sum of the percentages for any year and town in the last two parts of the table must, of course, equal the corresponding total percentage in the first part of the table. Thus the total percentage of increase in cost of food, groceries, and house rent in Sydney for 1917 compared with 1904 is 61.2 per cent., of which 44.8 per cent. is due to increased cost of food and groceries, and 16.4 per cent. to increase in house rents. In any case where there has been a decrease (*i.e.*, where the combined cost of food and groceries and house rent, or if either separately was less in 1917 than in preceding years) the fact is indicated by a negative sign.

Percentage of Increase or Decrease in Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-numbers in 1917, compared with Previous Years, 1901 to 1916.

TOWN.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN 1917, COMPARED WITH—															
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Sydney	57.5	43.5	46.8	61.2	50.1	50.5	51.9	42.7	42.2	41.3	36.4	22.5	19.3	16.6	6.3	0.9
Melb. . .	48.8	43.2	46.9	51.5	47.4	47.4	47.8	39.6	43.0	37.4	36.3	22.7	23.1	17.1	1.3	-1.1
Brisbane	53.5	47.8	49.5	60.8	53.4	51.3	48.7	37.9	38.8	34.6	29.1	20.6	21.9	18.4	1.6	-0.6
Adelaide	44.1	44.2	48.8	53.3	42.6	39.7	39.2	30.6	25.7 [*]	23.5	17.7	7.6	11.0	8.9	-1.1	-3.1
Perth ..	21.3	15.6	14.8	19.6	19.2	21.7	26.3	24.5	26.1	21.7	10.6	8.0	10.4	9.0	1.9	-1.5
Hobart	49.6	45.6	44.9	52.1	46.7	44.7	46.7	41.3	36.6	36.8	36.3	24.8	23.5	19.3	5.5	1.7
Weight'd Average	49.9	41.8	44.8	53.7	46.3	46.2	47.0	38.7	39.1	36.1	31.8	19.8	19.4	15.6	3.1	-0.5

PERCENTAGE DUE TO VARIATIONS IN COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES.

Sydney	41.1	28.4	31.4	44.8	35.7	36.3	38.4	30.5	31.4	32.0	31.5	21.3	20.4	18.8	6.4	0.8
Melb. . .	30.3	25.9	29.4	34.2	30.9	31.4	32.8	26.5	30.2	28.3	29.6	18.5	21.8	17.0	-0.1	-2.2
Brisbane	33.7	28.7	31.2	41.2	35.3	33.7	34.0	26.3	29.3	27.2	25.0	18.3	22.1	19.4	1.6	-1.0
Adelaide	28.4	28.5	32.6	36.6	30.5	30.6	32.5	26.9	25.0	25.9	23.7	14.8	17.1	11.8	-2.0	-4.0
Perth ..	18.4	12.7	12.1	16.7	13.9	15.4	18.4	16.5	17.5	14.6	8.3	8.2	12.4	10.5	1.1	-1.7
Hobart	36.2	32.6	32.2	38.8	34.2	32.6	35.5	31.3	27.9	29.2	30.0	20.0	21.3	18.0	4.7	1.0
Weight'd Average	33.7	26.6	29.4	37.8	31.9	32.3	34.1	27.5	29.1	28.5	27.8	18.5	20.1	16.9	2.6	-1.0

PERCENTAGE DUE TO VARIATIONS IN HOUSE RENTS.

Sydney	16.4	15.1	15.4	16.4	14.4	14.2	13.5	12.2	10.8	9.3	4.9	1.2	-1.1	-2.2	-0.1	0.1
Melb. . .	18.5	17.3	17.5	17.3	16.5	16.0	15.0	13.1	12.8	9.1	6.7	4.2	1.3	-0.1	1.3	1.1
Brisbane	19.8	18.8	18.3	19.6	18.1	17.6	14.7	11.6	9.5	7.4	4.1	2.3	-0.2	-1.0	0.4	
Adelaide	15.7	15.7	16.2	16.7	12.1	9.1	6.7	3.7	0.7	-2.4	-6.0	-7.2	-6.1	-2.9	0.9	0.9
Perth ..	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.9	5.3	6.3	7.9	8.0	8.6	7.1	2.3	-0.2	-2.0	-1.5	0.8	0.2
Hobart	13.4	13.0	12.7	13.3	12.5	12.1	11.2	10.0	8.7	7.6	6.3	4.8	2.2	1.3	0.8	0.7
Weight'd Average	16.2	15.2	15.4	15.9	14.4	13.9	12.9	11.2	10.0	7.6	4.0	1.3	-0.7	-1.3	0.5	0.5

* The negative sign indicates a decrease.

SECTION V.—INVESTIGATIONS INTO VARIATIONS IN PURCHASING-POWER-OF-MONEY INDEX-NUMBERS IN 150 TOWNS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1. Introduction.—In order to supplement the information as to variations in the purchasing-power of money, which is collected each month for the 30 towns specified in the preceding Section, a special investigation was initiated in November, 1913, as to purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers in 70 additional towns in the Commonwealth. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120, and it is intended to carry it out in that month each year, thus making information available annually in all for 150 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (Section IV., pages 26 to 33), where some description was given of the methods adopted in making the investigation and in computing the index-numbers. The results of the second investigation (November, 1914) were published in Labour Bulletin No. 8 (Section IV., pages 231 to 240); of the third in Labour Bulletin No. 12 (Section IV., pages 356 to 361), and of the fourth in Report No. 7 (Section V., pages 393 to 403).

2. Index-Numbers shewing relative Purchasing-Power of Money.—The results of the investigation made in November, 1917, are set out in the tables on pages 48 to 51. *The basis for the whole of this table is the weighted average aggregate expenditure for the 150 towns on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses, in November, 1917.* (See end of last column on page 51). This weighted average aggregate expenditure is made equal to 1000, and the aggregate expenditure on these items for each individual town is shewn in the last column in the form of index-numbers relative to this average. In the preceding column similar index-numbers are shewn for food, groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses, and these index-numbers are again computed to the same base indicated above. That is to say, that while the index-number 1000 (see page 51) represents the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses, 937 represents the average weighted expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses. Similarly, in the remaining three columns, if 1000 represents the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses (page 51), the index-number 699 represents the relative weighted average expenditure on food and groceries only, the index-number 238 represents the relative weighted average expenditure on rent of four-roomed houses, and 301 the expenditure on rent of five-roomed houses. It follows, therefore, that the figures given in the table are comparable throughout. Thus, taking the average weighted expenditure for all 150 towns on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses as equal to 1000, the expenditure on the same items in Melbourne is 992, while if four-roomed houses were substituted for five-roomed, the expenditure in Melbourne would be represented by 923,

of which 658 would be the expenditure on food and groceries, and the remaining 265 the expenditure on house rent. Again, the expenditure in Sydney on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses is 1092, or 9.2 per cent. above the weighted average, and that number is made up of 723, the relative expenditure on food and groceries, and 369 the relative expenditure on rent of five-roomed houses. The expenditure on the same items in Grafton is represented by 1013, of which 756 represents the expenditure on food and groceries and 257 that on rent.

In the following table, the first column shews the index-numbers for food and groceries only, while the second and third shew the index-numbers for the rent of houses having four and five rooms respectively. The fourth column shews the aggregate index-numbers for food and groceries combined with the rent of four-roomed houses, and the last column the index-numbers for food and groceries combined with the rent of five-roomed houses:—

Relative Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1917.*

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
New South Wales—					
Sydney	723	305	369	1,028	1,092
Newcastle	717	203	276	920	993
Broken Hill	810	194	255	1,004	1,065
Goulburn	689	232	310	921	999
Bathurst	693	152	205	845	898
Adelong	691	95	113	786	804
Albury	706	223	283	929	989
Armidale	715	222	284	937	999
Bega	721	169	219	890	940
Bourke	752	232	283	984	1,035
Bowral	702	247	309	949	1,011
Casino	752	175	211	927	963
Cobar	750	146	192	896	942
Cooma	712	178	220	890	932
Coonamble	757	185	232	942	989
Cootamundra	708	214	283	922	991
Corrimonal	739	152	181	891	920
Cowra	703	237	294	940	997
Deniliquin	722	174	225	896	947
Dubbo	705	188	283	893	988
Forbes	703	181	214	884	917
Glen Innes	710	188	247	898	957
Grafton	756	206	257	962	1,013
Grenfell	740	209	277	949	1,017
Gunnedah	707	232	309	939	1,016
Hay	758	165	233	923	991
Inverell	734	249	293	983	1,027
Junee	705	255	305	960	1,010
Katoomba	750	285	357	1,035	1,107
Kempsey	720	139	208	859	928
Lismore	766	227	283	993	1,050
Lithgow	732	227	260	959	992

* These results are based upon the regimen referred to on pages 20-22 Labour Report No. 6.

Relative Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1917—*cont.*

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
New South Wales—<i>cont.</i>					
Maitland	701	173	250	874	951
Moree	750	309	361	1,059	1,111
Moss Vale	715	278	384	993	1,099
Mudgee	709	180	232	889	941
Narrabri	749	216	299	965	1,048
Nowra	716	206	258	922	974
Orange	686	203	285	889	971
Parkes	759	186	240	945	999
Queanbeyan	749	186	224	935	973
Tamworth	728	230	286	958	1,014
Temora	731	232	276	963	1,007
Wagga Wagga	679	251	340	930	1,019
Wellington	716	227	289	943	1,005
Wollongong	730	211	260	941	990
Wyalong	735	188	257	923	992
Yass	749	203	256	952	1,005
Young	701	242	282	943	983
Weighted Average for State ..	725	273	337	998	1,062
Victoria—					
Melbourne	658	265	334	923	992
Ballarat	651	112	169	763	820
Bendigo	644	140	201	784	845
Geelong	657	166	242	823	899
Warrnambool	659	186	243	845	902
Ararat	686	165	224	851	910
Bairnsdale	673	151	199	824	872
Beechworth	672	116	134	788	806
Benalla	685	170	209	855	894
Bright	695	139	175	834	870
Camperdown	651	174	230	825	881
Castlemaine	664	157	208	821	872
Colac	684	186	229	869	913
Creswick	677	90	129	767	806
Daylesford	651	104	149	755	801
Dunolly	680	80	116	760	796
Echuca	688	121	171	809	859
Euroa	661	134	167	795	828
Hamilton	667	175	265	842	932
Horsham	684	186	232	870	916
Korumburra	668	165	206	833	874
Kyneton	666	136	206	802	872
Maldon	685	83	103	768	788
Maryborough	672	111	153	783	825
Mildura	744	277	344	1,022	1,088
Nhill	696	178	227	874	923
Omeo	767	103	139	870	906
Orbost	703	194	258	896	961
Portland	674	144	197	818	871
St. Arnaud	708	114	162	822	870
Sale	644	146	182	790	826
Shepparton	671	160	255	831	926
Stawell	685	157	209	842	894

Relative Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1917—*cont.*

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
Victoria—<i>cont.</i>					
Swan Hill ..	694	275	322	969	1,016
Walhalla ..	705	52	75	757	780
Wandiligong ..	702	88	104	790	806
Wangaratta ..	682	191	240	873	922
Warracknabeal ..	637	175	239	812	876
Wonthaggi ..	705	237	320	942	1,025
Yackandandah ..	653	104	124	757	777
Weighted Average for State ..	659	230	297	889	956
Queensland—					
Brisbane ..	681	176	231	857	912
Toowoomba ..	701	137	183	838	884
Rockhampton ..	677	160	203	837	880
Charters Towers ..	748	165	219	913	967
Warwick ..	695	126	185	821	880
Bundaberg ..	714	134	191	848	905
Cairns ..	797	258	314	1,055	1,111
Charleville ..	783	254	333	1,037	1,116
Chillagoe ..	792	41	83	833	875
Cloncurry ..	879	314	425	1,193	1,304
Cooktown ..	791	79	105	870	896
Cunnamulla ..	724	157	185	881	909
Goondiwindi ..	698	154	219	852	917
Gympie ..	709	142	180	851	889
Hamilton ..	684	310	361	994	1,045
Hughenden ..	761	309	361	1,070	1,122
Ipswich ..	720	160	216	880	936
Longreach ..	780	217	289	997	1,069
Mackay ..	731	216	263	947	994
Maryborough ..	693	137	155	830	848
Mt. Morgan ..	728	196	237	924	965
Roma ..	731	217	284	948	1,015
Townsville ..	776	282	366	1,058	1,142
Winton ..	818	258	361	1,076	1,179
Weighted Average for State ..	703	178	231	881	934
South Australia—					
Adelaide ..	664	232	304	896	968
Moonta & Kadina ..	690	154	228	845	918
Port Pirie ..	722	235	284	958	1,006
Mt. Gambier ..	647	171	213	819	860
Petersburg ..	711	186	247	897	958
Gawler ..	676	158	199	834	875
Kapunda ..	673	103	144	776	817
Murray Bridge ..	671	196	278	866	949
Pt. Augusta ..	746	275	343	1,020	1,089
Pt. Lincoln ..	725	186	216	910	941
Pt. Victor ..	683	165	206	848	889
Renmark ..	716	254	317	970	1,033
Weighted Average for State ..	670	223	291	892	961

Relative Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1917—cont.

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
Western Australia—					
Perth & Fremantle	683	238	294	921	977
Kalgoorlie & Boulder	852	280	346	1,132	1,198
Midland Junction & Guildford ..	684	180	240	864	924
Bunbury	723	130	209	853	932
Geraldton	757	281	352	1,038	1,109
Albany	751	245	296	997	1,048
Broome	944	†	†	†	†
Carnarvon	871	245	335	1,116	1,206
Cue	834	170	200	1,004	1,034
Katanning	714	240	293	954	1,007
Leonora	901	155	206	1,056	1,107
Menzies	1,015	103	124	1,118	1,139
Northam	950	103	139	1,053	1,089
Ravensthorpe ..	752	206	283	958	1,035
Weighted Average for State ..	733	237	296	968	1,027
Tasmania—					
Hobart	782	242	296	1,024	1,078
Launceston ..	727	201	280	928	1,007
Zeehan	795	97	124	892	919
Beaconsfield ..	779	52	73	831	852
Queenstown ..	789	218	251	1,007	1,040
Burnie	711	224	271	935	982
Campbelltown ..	728	97	111	825	839
Devonport ..	691	225	271	916	962
Franklin	746	185	247	931	993
Oatlands	733	82	103	815	836
Scottsdale	718	131	185	849	903
Weighted Average for State ..	759	209	265	968	1,024
Weighted Average Commonwealth	679	238	301	937	1,000*

* Basis of Tables. † Not available.

3. Food and Groceries.—Comparing the index-numbers for food and groceries alone (column I.), it will be observed that, taking the weighted average for all the towns in each State, New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania are above the average for the Commonwealth, while Victoria and South Australia are below. Tasmania is the most expensive State (8.6 per cent. above the average), and Victoria the cheapest (5.7 below). Of the other States New South Wales is 3.7 per cent., Queensland 0.6 per cent., and Western Australia 4.9 per cent. above the average, while South Australia is 4.1 per cent.

below the average. In all the States some of the towns are above and some below the average for the Commonwealth. In New South Wales the most expensive town is Broken Hill, 15.9 per cent. above the weighted average for the 150 towns, while the cheapest town is Wagga Wagga, which is 2.9 per cent. below the average. In Victoria, Omeo is the most expensive town, 9.7 per cent. above, and Warracknabeal the cheapest, 8.9 per cent. below the average. In Queensland the most expensive town is Cloncurry, 25.8 per cent. above, and the cheapest Rockhampton, 3.1 per cent. below the average. In South Australia the most expensive town is Port Augusta, 6.7 per cent. above, and the cheapest Mt. Gambier, 7.4 per cent. below the average. In Western Australia, Menzies is the most expensive town, 45.2 per cent. above, and Perth the cheapest, 2.3 per cent. below the weighted average for all towns. Zeehan is the most expensive town in Tasmania, being 13.7 per cent. above, while Devonport is the cheapest, being 1.1 per cent. below the average for all towns.

4. House Rents—There is a far greater divergence between the relative expenditure on house rents in the various towns than on food and groceries. As might naturally be expected, the general tendency appears to be that the cost of housing accommodation is greater in places where there is great centralisation of people than in sparsely-populated districts. That this is not always the case, however, is at once apparent on comparing the index-numbers for Sydney with its 700,000 inhabitants and Geraldton, in Western Australia, with under 4000 inhabitants. It will be observed that in the case of the latter town the index-numbers for housing accommodation is only slightly lower than Sydney.

Comparing the weighted average of the towns in each State, it will be seen that, in the case of four-roomed houses, New South Wales is 14.7 per cent. above the average for the whole of the towns, while the other States are below the average; Queensland 25.2 per cent.; Tasmania 12.2 per cent.; South Australia 6.3 per cent.; Victoria 3.4 per cent.; and Western Australia 0.4 per cent. Turning now to houses having 5 rooms, it will be seen that again New South Wales is above the average for the whole of the towns, by 12.6 per cent. Of the remaining States, Queensland is 23.3 per cent., Tasmania 12.0 per cent., South Australia 3.3 per cent., Western Australia 1.7 per cent., and Victoria 2.3 per cent. below the average for the 150 towns.

Comparing individual towns it may be seen that in New South Wales, Moree has the highest index-number for houses of four rooms, and Moss Vale for houses of five rooms, 29.8 per cent. for the former and 27.6 per cent. for the latter, above the average for the 150 towns considered as a whole. Adelong has the lowest index-number for both kinds of houses, being 60.1 per cent. for 4 rooms, and 62.5 per cent. for 5 rooms, below the average. In Victoria, Mildura is the highest for houses of 4 rooms and 5 rooms, 16.4 per cent. for the former, and 14.3 per cent. for the latter above the average. Walhalla has the lowest index-number

in both cases, 79.2 per cent. below the average for houses having 4 rooms and 75.1 per cent. below for houses having 5 rooms. In Queensland, Cloncurry has the highest index-number both for 4 rooms and 5 rooms; 31.9 per cent. for the former, and 41.2 per cent. for the latter, above the average for all towns. Chillagoe has the lowest index-number in both cases, being 82.8 per cent. for 4 rooms, and 72.4 per cent. for 5 rooms below the average. In South Australia Port Augusta has the highest index-number for house rents, 15.5 per cent. for houses of 4 rooms, and 14.0 per cent. for houses of 5 rooms above the average, while Kapunda has the lowest index-number, 56.7 per cent. for houses of 4 rooms, and 52.2 per cent. for houses of 5 rooms below the average. In Western Australia, Geraldton has the highest index-number for houses of 4 and 5 rooms, being 18.1 per cent. for the former, and 16.9 per cent. for the latter above the average, while for houses of 4 rooms, Menzies and Northam are 56.7 per cent., and for houses of 5 rooms Menzies is 59.8 per cent. below the average for the 150 towns. Hobart has the highest index-number for Tasmania in both cases, being 1.7 per cent. *above* the average for houses of 4 rooms, and 1.7 *below* the average for houses of 5 rooms. Beaconsfield has the lowest index-numbers in both cases, being 78.2 per cent. for 4 rooms, and 75.7 per cent. for 5 rooms below the average for the 150 towns considered as a whole.

5. Food, Groceries and House Rent.—The index-numbers in the last two columns of the table on pages 48 to 51 shew the relative cost of food and groceries combined with rent of the two classes of houses indicated. The general order and arrangement, both of the separate States and of individual towns, as regards relative cost of the commodities and house rent included, is the same whether the rent included refers to four or to five-roomed houses. Taking the combined expenditure in the case of four rooms and five rooms, the weighted average index-numbers for New South Wales, Western Australia and Tasmania are above the weighted average for all towns, while the index-number is below in the remaining States. Taking combined expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses, New South Wales is 6.5 per cent., and Western Australia and Tasmania 3.3 per cent. above the weighted average for the Commonwealth, while Queensland is 6.0 per cent., Victoria 5.1 per cent., and South Australia 4.8 per cent. below the average. For combined expenditure on food, groceries and houses having five rooms, the index-number for New South Wales is 6.2 per cent., for Western Australia 2.7 per cent., and for Tasmania 2.4 per cent. above the weighted average for all towns, while the index-number for Queensland is 6.6 per cent., for Victoria 4.4 per cent., and for South Australia 3.9 per cent. below the average.

Comparing individual towns, it may be seen that in New South Wales the index number for combined expenditure on food, groceries and rent of four-roomed and five-roomed houses is greatest in Moree, being 13.0 per cent. for the former, and 11.1 per cent. for the latter above the average. The index-number is lowest in Adelong, whether the comparison be made with four or five rooms. In the former case it is 16.1 per cent., and in the latter 19.6 per

cent. below the average. In Victoria, Mildura has the highest combined index-number in both cases, 9.1 per cent. and 8.8 per cent. above the respective weighted average index-numbers. Daylesford has the lowest combined index-number when houses of four rooms are taken, and Yackandandah when houses of five rooms are taken. Daylesford is 19.4 per cent., and Yackandandah 22.3 per cent. below the Commonwealth averages. In Queensland, Cloncurry has the highest index-number, whether the combined expenditure include four or five rooms. The index-number for Cloncurry is 19.3 per cent. for four rooms, and 30.4 per cent. for five rooms, above the Commonwealth averages, while Warwick is 12.4 per cent. for four rooms, and Maryborough 15.2 per cent. for five rooms below the average. In South Australia, Port Augusta has the highest, and Kapunda the lowest index-number in both cases. The index-number for Port Augusta is 8.9 per cent. for four rooms, and 8.9 per cent. for five rooms above, and for Kapunda 17.2 per cent. for four rooms, and 18.3 per cent. for five rooms below the weighted averages for the Commonwealth. In Western Australia the combined index-number is greatest for houses of four rooms in Kalgoorlie, 20.8 per cent. above the average, and for houses of five rooms in Carnarvon, 20.6 per cent. above the average. Bunbury has the lowest combined index-number for four rooms, and Midland Junction for five rooms. In the former case it is 9.0 per cent., and in the latter 7.6 per cent. below the Commonwealth average. Hobart has the highest combined index-numbers in Tasmania, being 9.3 per cent. for four rooms, and 7.8 per cent. for five rooms above the average. Oatlands has the lowest combined index-numbers, being 13.0 per cent. below the average, when combined expenditure for four rooms is taken, and 16.4 per cent. below the average for five rooms.

6. Variation in Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers, 1913 to 1917.—On the map facing this page, index-numbers are given which represent the relative purchasing-power-of-money in each of the 100 towns in 1913 and 1914, and also shew the increase or decrease in 100 towns between November, 1913, and the same month in 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917. In these index-numbers the weighted average expenditure in 1913 on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses is taken as base (= 1000, see end of first column). The second column represents the proportional expenditure in each town on food and groceries only, so that the difference between the index-number in the first column and that in the second column for any town represents the relative expenditure on rent in November, 1913. In the third and fourth columns shewing purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers for November, 1914, the same base is retained, with the result that the figures shew not only relative cost in that month, but also the increase or decrease in cost during the periods indicated. Similarly, the index-numbers in the fifth and sixth, seventh and eighth, and ninth and tenth columns are again computed to the original base, so that they shew both the relative cost of food and groceries as between the several towns, and the variation in cost in each individual town since November, 1913. Thus it may be seen that in Sydney the purchasing-power-of-money index-number increased from 1109 to 1352, a rise of 21.9 per cent., between November, 1913, and November, 1917. The figures



RELATIVE COST OF FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSE RENT

(NOVEMBER, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 AND 1917)

IN RELATION TO

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

A.—Heavy Figures denote index-numbers for Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-roomed Houses.
 B.—Light figures denote index-numbers for Food and Groceries only.

Reference to Numbers on Map.

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.		1915.	1916.	1917.	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
1 SYDNEY ..	1,109	634	1,124	651	1,321	861	1,305	851	1,352	895
2 Newcastle ..	960	637	972	648	1,222	847	1,173	856	1,223	888
3 Broken Hill ..	1,116	763	849	773	1,192	1,013	1,042	1,319	1,002	1,025
4 Goulburn ..	974	629	1,035	667	1,271	854	1,247	864	1,237	853
5 Bathurst ..	892	583	909	608	1,102	825	1,109	832	1,111	858
6 Armidale ..	875	601	948	618	1,148	863	1,150	834	1,237	886
7 Cobar ..	987	661	881	742	998	907	1,159	832	1,111	858
8 Cooma ..	861	638	975	662	1,221	962	1,131	884	1,154	881
9 Cootamundra ..	977	632	990	653	1,290	828	1,228	864	1,227	876
10 Deniliquin ..	836	606	943	675	1,199	924	1,148	874	1,173	894
11 Grafton ..	919	632	923	654	1,181	913	1,164	830	1,255	936
12 Hay ..	913	688	989	740	1,277	1,006	1,235	948	1,222	938
13 Lismore ..	931	693	1,042	723	1,213	860	1,183	842	1,294	949
14 Lithgow ..	915	628	938	625	1,227	894	1,212	884	1,229	906
15 Moree ..	981	681	1,041	691	1,256	937	1,225	906	1,375	928
16 Mudgee ..	824	569	895	640	1,131	863	1,162	878	1,165	878
17 Queanbeyan ..	1,052	650	980	635	1,213	906	1,169	873	1,204	928
18 Tamworth ..	902	599	1,066	649	1,231	874	1,306	876	1,255	901
19 Wagga Wagga ..	967	584	949	670	1,172	834	1,307	818	1,262	841
20 Yass ..	943	637	1,040	676	1,251	948	1,201	890	1,244	927
21 West Wyalong ..	966	631	952	669	1,130	890	1,177	906	1,229	910
22 MELBOURNE ..	964	568	1,019	628	1,240	852	1,207	807	1,228	814
23 Ballarat ..	787	566	845	636	1,084	874	1,012	815	1,016	806
24 Bendigo ..	815	573	873	641	1,068	843	1,030	814	1,047	797
25 Geelong ..	872	579	943	639	1,145	849	1,125	809	1,113	813
26 Warrnambool ..	865	581	914	620	1,152	865	1,100	804	1,117	816
27 Ararat ..	833	577	915	641	1,179	895	1,119	852	1,126	849
28 Bairnsdale ..	796	579	838	615	1,155	903	1,053	811	1,079	833
29 Camperdown ..	868	572	915	625	1,101	818	1,079	800	1,091	806
30 Castlemaine ..	773	547	911	636	1,137	862	1,089	831	1,079	822
31 Creswick ..	730	577	808	636	1,056	883	1,039	860	998	838
32 Daylesford ..	779	590	817	638	1,073	883	1,000	821	991	806
33 Echuca ..	811	607	857	672	1,061	876	1,009	827	1,064	852
34 Hamilton ..	871	594	926	636	1,275	924	1,102	847	1,153	825
35 Horsham ..	849	534	988	670	1,202	921	1,179	860	1,134	847
36 Korumburra ..	839	596	892	625	1,162	907	1,088	798	1,082	827
37 Kyneton ..	768	562	790	611	1,114	887	1,040	824	1,050	825
38 Maryborough ..	745	573	808	626	1,029	844	1,037	834	1,022	834
39 Mildura ..	972	608	1,053	696	1,272	939	1,330	907	1,346	921
40 Nhill ..	867	593	905	656	1,121	887	1,142	883	1,142	861
41 Portland ..	796	592	904	624	1,220	928	1,211	869	1,079	834
42 Sale ..	784	551	874	634	1,070	824	1,022	780	1,022	797
43 Swan Hill ..	975	618	1,000	649	1,279	784	1,204	827	1,257	827
44 Walhalla ..	790	687	808	693	1,025	897	954	852	966	873
45 Wangaratta ..	825	589	965	662	1,173	818	1,108	824	1,141	844
46 Warracknabeal ..	810	555	877	647	1,082	814	1,048	783	1,085	788
47 BRISBANE ..	878	583	919	627	1,166	878	1,050	763	1,129	838
48 Toowoomba ..	840	603	898	646	1,119	894	992	760	1,094	867
49 Rockhampton ..	863	617	920	668	1,184	945	1,063	817	1,078	888
50 Charters Towers ..	907	658	997	752	1,185	942	1,130	884	1,197	928
51 Warwick ..	822	590	863	635	1,077	863	987	778	1,090	861
52 Bundaberg ..	851	621	893	650	1,128	873	1,041	828	1,129	884
53 Cairns ..	1,067	704	1,140	809	1,248	913	1,299	929	1,376	987
54 Charleville ..	1,069	704	1,041	722	1,396	1,001	1,338	936	1,331	969
55 Chilgaoe ..	1,153	834	1,052	892	1,319	1,000	1,112	920	1,083	981
56 Cooktown ..	937	745	1,003	799	1,125	958	1,072	931	1,110	979
57 Cunnamulla ..	992	724	1,047	779	1,321	1,065	1,124	894	1,128	896
58 Goondiwindi ..	958	639	968	680	1,190	935	1,044	805	1,135	864
59 Gympie ..	791	600	819	653	1,088	890	1,001	818	1,101	878
60 Hightenden ..	1,145	756	1,269	803	1,334	951	1,274	907	1,389	942
61 Ipswich ..	874	606	900	632	1,180	894	1,062	780	1,159	891
62 Longreach ..	1,047	728	1,123	821	1,200	945	1,194	939	1,323	966
63 Maryborough ..	762	584	830	624	1,135	913	1,045	825	1,049	858
64 Mount Morgan ..	880	637	951	696	1,204	949	1,103	842	1,194	901
65 Townsville ..	996	636	1,123	769	1,343	952	1,245	856	1,414	

shew, moreover, that the purchasing-power-of-money index-number in Sydney (1109) was 10.9 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1000) in November, 1913, while twelve months later the index-number (1124) was 8.6 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1035); in November, 1915, it was 1321, or 7.1 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1234); in November, 1916, it was 1305, or 8.4 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1204), and in 1917 it was 1352, or 9.2 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1238). Again, as regards cost of food and groceries only, the index-number in Sydney in 1913 was 634, or 2.1 per cent. above the Commonwealth average 621; in November, 1914, the corresponding number was 651; in November, 1915, 861; in November, 1916, 851; and in November, 1917, 895, shewing that the cost increased from November, 1913, to November, 1917, by 41.2 per cent., and was then 3.4 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (866). The difference between the two index-numbers for Sydney in 1913 was 475, and the corresponding difference in 1917, 457. This shews that rent of five-roomed houses had decreased 3.8 per cent.

It has already been explained that the list of towns from which information as to prices and house rents are collected annually has been extended, and for November, 1915, 1916 and 1917 was 150. The index-numbers for the 50 additional towns for November, 1915, 1916 and 1917, are shewn in columns 11 to 16 on the map. They are computed to the same base as the 100 towns, and are therefore comparable with them in all respects. Thus, it may be seen that comparing Melbourne and Bright, the index-number for food and groceries in November, 1915, was 852 for Melbourne, and 921 for Bright, shewing that the cost of food and groceries was 8.1 per cent. higher in Bright than in Melbourne. Again, taking the difference between the two index-numbers for November, 1915, in each case, it may be seen that the index-number for rent of five-roomed houses was in Melbourne 388, and in Bright 197. Thus the rent of five-roomed houses was at that period 50.8 per cent. less in Bright than in Melbourne.

7. Comparisons between Results obtained from Special Investigation and Quarterly Results.—In order to ascertain the degree of accuracy to which the investigations as to variations in the purchasing-power of money made prior to 1912 for the capital towns only, and those made since the beginning of 1912 for the thirty towns, reflect the conditions obtaining throughout the States and Commonwealth, comparisons between the three sets of results were made in connection with the inquiry of November, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916. Similar comparisons are now made in connection with the 1917 inquiry. In the following table the first line in each section shews the results obtained, as to relative purchasing-power of money, from the special inquiry covering in all 150 towns. The second line gives the results obtained from the returns received for the month of November, 1917, for the five towns in each State from which regular monthly returns are received, and the last line the results obtained from the November returns for the capital towns only. The capital towns are, of course, included in each of the other two investigations, and the five towns in each State are included in the investigation for "all towns":—

Relative Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers. Comparisons between Results obtained from Special Investigation and from Ordinary Periodic Returns, November, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	W'ght Aver- age.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
All Towns*	1,036	943	1,006	958	1,048	1,085	1,000
Five Towns in each State	1,046	947	993	964	1,039	1,105	1,000
Capital Towns only	1,049	954	988	963	991	1,135	1,000

	RENT, 5-ROOMED HOUSES.						
All Towns*	1,121	986	767	971	983	881	1,000
Five Towns in each State	1,130	988	707	943	964	865	1,000
Capital Towns only	1,112	1,008	696	915	886	891	1,000

	FOOD AND GROCERIES AND RENT.						
All Towns*	1,062	956	934	962	1,027	1,024	1,000
Five Towns in each State	1,072	960	904	958	1,016	1,030	1,000
Capital Towns only	1,069	972	893	948	957	1,056	1,000

* For list of towns included, see Table on pages 41 to 58.

As regards variations in cost of living for November, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917, compared with November, 1913, the index-numbers for November, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917, computed from the three sets of data mentioned above, are shewn in the following table : —

Variations in Purchasing-Power-of-Money Index-Numbers, Results obtained from Annual Inquiry for extended List of Towns and from Periodic Monthly Inquiries, November, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

Particulars.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.					

All Towns	1,000	1,072	1,405	1,353	1,395
Five Towns in each State	1,000	1,073	1,404	1,354	1,390
Capital Towns only	1,000	1,072	1,408	1,358	1,397

	RENT OF 5-ROOMED HOUSES.				
All Towns	1,000	974	952	959	981
Five Towns in each State	1,000	969	961	966	987
Capital Towns only	1,000	975	955	961	980

	FOOD, GROCERIES, AND RENT.				
All Towns	1,000	1,035	1,234	1,204	1,238
Five Towns in each State	1,000	1,033	1,232	1,203	1,234
Capital Towns only	1,000	1,032	1,223	1,196	1,227

NOTE.—The figures in the vertical columns do not, of course, shew relative purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers. They shew merely the increase or decrease in cost in November of each year, compared with November, 1913, for "All Towns," "Five Towns in each State," and "Capital Towns only" respectively.

The index-numbers in the first line of each part of the latter table refer to 100 towns for November, 1913 and 1914, and to 150 towns for November, 1915, 1916 and 1917. The general closeness of the results shewn in these two tables is remarkable, and is a further confirmation of the conclusions previously stated, that the index-numbers published for the capital towns only, for the years prior to 1912, and for the thirty towns for 1912 and subsequent years, reflect, with a substantial degree of accuracy, the variations in the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers, not only in each State separately, but also throughout the Commonwealth as a whole. The second table also shews that during the period November, 1913, to November, 1917, the average cost of food and groceries throughout the Commonwealth increased over 39 per cent., while house rents declined nearly 2 per cent., the aggregate result shewing an increase of approximately 23 per cent.

SECTION VI.—WHOLESALE PRICES.

1. General.—The results of an investigation into wholesale prices in Melbourne from 1871 to 1912 were given in some detail in Reports Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7. In this Section results are now included for the year 1917.

The data upon which the investigation is based were obtained mainly from reports of Melbourne market prices, published in the ordinary press, and in special trade reviews. In any case of doubt as to the reliability of the figures, the records thus obtained were verified by reference to well-known and important business firms, dealing in the articles in question. Every care was taken to ensure that the prices quoted for each article refer to a uniform quality, and, in cases where more than one source of information was utilised for obtaining prices of single commodities, special precautions were taken to ensure substantial continuity of quality or grade. In most cases, monthly prices were obtained (but where daily or weekly quotations were available, these were adopted), and arithmetic averages for the several years were computed. In regard, however, to a few commodities, such as coal, tea, cotton and wool, since monthly prices were not available for back years, yearly averages, based in each case upon expert opinion, were secured.

It was at first intended to obtain records, on the lines indicated, for a uniform list of commodities for the capital town of each State. Owing, however, to the large amount of work involved, and to the difficulty experienced in obtaining regularly the prices of anything like a uniform representative list of commodities from the papers and journals published in some of these towns, this idea has for the present been abandoned.

2. Commodities Included and Methods Adopted.—Retail prices have the advantage that a comparatively small list of commodities suffices to represent a large proportion of the average expenditure. They are, however, subject to the difficulty that their variations depend largely upon local conditions, and it is, therefore, ordinarily necessary to collect the data over a wide area. Wholesale prices, on the other hand, are fixed usually at one or two centres, but a much larger list of commodities must be covered.

The index-numbers up to the year 1911 are based on the prices of eighty commodities, but since that year the number has been increased to ninety-two.* The methods followed for the computation of the wholesale price index-numbers are the same as those adopted in regard to retail prices. The commodities included, the units of measurement for which the prices are taken, and the mass-units, indicating the relative extent to which each commodity, in the units of measurement specified, is used or consumed, are shewn in the following statement.

* In the computation of the index-numbers for years prior to 1911, the aggregate expenditure on 80 commodities in 1911 is taken as base (=1000), while for later years the aggregate expenditure on 92 commodities in 1911 is taken.

Melbourne Wholesale Prices, Commodities included, Units of Measurement, and
"Mass-Units."

3. Index-Numbers.—Index-numbers have been computed for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups together. The index-numbers for the several groups, and for all groups together, are shewn in the following table. In regard to Group VI., it should be observed that reliable and uniform records as to prices of meat could not be obtained further back than 1890 (except for the years 1884 and 1885). Index-numbers were accordingly worked out for the full period since 1871 for the seven groups, *excluding* meat, and also for the period since 1890, for the eight groups, *including* meat. The figures shewn in the last column of the subjoined table for years prior to 1890 have, accordingly, been adjusted (on the basis of the results for succeeding years), so as to include meat.

The index-numbers have in each case been computed with the prices in the year 1911 as base; that is to say, they shew the amount which would have had to be expended in each of the years specified in order to purchase what would have cost £1000 in 1911 distributed in purchasing the relative quantities (indicated by the mass-units) of the several commodities included in each group, and in all groups respectively. Thus, in the last column it may be seen that the cost of the relative quantities of the various commodities was 1229 in 1871, and 974 in 1901, as compared with 1000 in 1911, and 1662 in 1917. In other words, prices were lower in 1911 than in either 1871 or 1917, and the purchasing-power of money in 1911 was, accordingly, greater. Again, prices were higher in 1911 than in 1901, and the purchasing-power of money in the former year was, therefore, less.

Melbourne Wholesale Prices, Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1917, Computed to Year 1911 as Base (= 1000).

YEAR.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Jute, Leather, &c.	III. Agricul- turalPro- duce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Grocer- ies.	VI. Meat.	VII. Buildings Materials	VIII. Chem- icals.	All Com- modities together.
1861	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891	895	847	1,024	995	1,082	888	780	1,194	945
1901	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903	923	834	1,209	1,059	926	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	801	859	910
1906	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910	1,004	1,052	969	1,100	999	1,008	996	898	1,000
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,088
1914	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915	1,234	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,322	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,682

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally. The index-numbers are reversible.

The general index-number for the year 1917 shews an increase of 10.5 per cent. compared with that for 1916. With regard to the various group index-numbers, three groups, viz., III. (Agricultural Produce), IV. (Dairy Produce), and VI. (Meat), shew decreases of 4.2, 4.2, and 4.6 per cent. respectively, while the remaining five groups shew increases; Group

I. (Metals and Coal) 25.6 per cent., II. (Jute, Leather, etc.) 41.1 per cent., V. (Groceries) 1.6 per cent., VII. (Building Materials) 26.4 per cent., and VIII. (Chemicals) 23.4 per cent.

The index-numbers for the full period since 1871 (and for 1861 and 1866) are given in report No. 1, page 48. On page 65 hereinafter a graph is given shewing the index-numbers since 1901 for all groups taken together.

4. Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups for each Quarter of 1917.—In the following table are shewn the index-numbers for the four quarters of 1917:—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices, Quarterly Index Numbers for 1917, and 1st Qtr., 1918.

GROUP.	NO OF COMMODITIES.	INDEX NUMBERS.				
		Jan. to March, 1917.	April to June, 1917.	July to Sept., 1917.	Oct. to Dec., 1917.	Jan. to March, 1918.
I. Metals and Coal .. .	14	1,794	1,982	2,295	2,338	2,358
II. Textiles, Leather, etc. .. .	10	1,656	1,866	2,125	2,386	2,639
III. Agricultural Produce .. .	16	1,166	1,112	1,140	1,211	1,286
IV. Dairy Produce .. .	9	1,413	1,476	1,404	1,400	
V. Groceries .. .	21	1,334	1,334	1,347	1,358	1,373
VII. Meat .. .	5	2,293	2,296	2,487	2,538	2,509
VIII. Building Materials .. .	10	1,569	1,722	2,033	2,211	2,272
VIII. Chemicals .. .	7	1,774	2,014	2,269	2,628	3,126
ALL GROUPS* .. .	92	1,525	1,587	1,715	1,804	1,877

* Weighted average.

5. Variations in Price Levels since the Outbreak of the War.—

The variation in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups for the years 1915, 1916, and 1917, and for each month from January 1917 to March 1918, are shewn in the following table, taking July 1914, the last month before the outbreak of war, as base (= 1000) for each group:—

Melbourne Wholesale Prices, Index Numbers, July 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and January 1917 to March 1918.

Particulars.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Textiles, Leather, etc.	III. Agricultural Produce.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
July 1914 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Year 1915 ..	1,166	934	2,024	1,272	1,098	1,502	1,164	1,490	1,406
,, 1916 ..	1,539	1,307	1,130	1,235	1,266	1,551	1,361	1,716	1,318
,, 1917 ..	1,919	1,841	1,084	1,181	1,302	1,480	1,722	2,141	1,456
January, 1917	1,604	1,475	1,126	1,157	1,290	1,449	1,397	1,714	1,330
February ,	1,627	1,507	1,097	1,182	1,290	1,376	1,420	1,736	1,330
March ,	1,659	1,587	1,052	1,180	1,293	1,400	1,501	1,756	1,344
April ,	1,725	1,637	1,033	1,216	1,289	1,416	1,525	1,856	1,361
May ,	1,772	1,645	1,043	1,227	1,291	1,383	1,551	1,960	1,371
June ,	1,904	1,858	1,046	1,247	1,295	1,445	1,643	2,071	1,441
July ,	2,006	1,980	1,048	1,204	1,302	1,469	1,775	2,173	1,483
August ,	2,138	1,970	1,069	1,176	1,307	1,524	1,899	2,312	1,517
September ,	2,185	1,863	1,090	1,133	1,319	1,596	1,904	2,431	1,520
October ,	2,172	2,055	1,126	1,136	1,315	1,574	2,005	2,468	1,550
November ,	2,118	2,198	1,150	1,149	1,312	1,610	2,014	2,618	1,591
December ,	2,120	2,328	1,123	1,160	1,322	1,520	2,035	2,595	1,595
January 1918	2,132	2,432	1,185	1,144	1,331	1,540	2,046	2,685	1,635
February ,	2,157	2,385	1,191	1,155	1,336	1,532	2,069	3,180	1,633
March ,	2,161	2,463	1,232	1,188	1,324	1,556	2,107	3,275	1,668

6. **Seasonal Fluctuations in Wholesale Prices, 1917.**—In order to shew the seasonal fluctuations in wholesale prices, index-numbers have been computed for each quarter of the year 1917. These are shewn in the following table, firstly, computed with the year 1911 as base, and secondly, with the average prices for the year 1917 as base. Corresponding figures for purchasing-power of money (retail prices and house rents) have been included for comparative purposes.

Melbourne Wholesale Prices—Quarterly Index-Numbers, 1917.

Particulars.	Jan. to March.	April to June.	July to Sept.	Oct. to Dec.	Whole Year.
Index-Numbers with 1911 as base (= 1,000) ..	1,525	1,587	1,715	1,804	1,662
Index-Numbers with average for 1917 as base (= 1,000) ..	918	955	1,032	1,085	1,000
Food, Groceries, and House Rent Index-Numbers, with average for 1917 as base (= 1,000) ..	988	993	1,008	1,012	1,000

The first two lines shew that in 1917 prices increased steadily during the whole period, and this was also the case with regard to retail prices (see last line).

7.—**Table of Prices, 1916-17.**—In Appendix III. particulars are given as to the average prices of the particular brands of commodities used in preparing the index-numbers in the years 1916 and 1917. Corresponding information for previous years, as far back as 1871, was given in Appendix VI. to Report No. 1; for 1912 in Appendix IV. to Report No. 2, and for 1913, 1914, and 1915 in Appendix V. to Report No. 6.

SECTION VII.—IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

1. General.—The list of commodities included in the investigation into import and export prices for the year 1916-1917, as well as the mass units, units of measurement, and sources of information, are the same as those in the previous investigations for the years 1901 to 1913, particulars of which are given on pages 66 to 68 of Report No. 1 on "Prices, Price Indexes and Cost of Living in Australia," and in Report No. 5, pp. 41 to 43. These index-numbers are computed annually, the data being obtained from the returns of imports and exports.

2. Index-Numbers.—Owing to the change in the system of collecting the statistics of imports and exports in the Commonwealth, by which the figures are made up to the end of the financial year at 30th June instead of at 31st December, as heretofore, the index-numbers in the last line of the following table represent the import and export values for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1917. The index-number for import and export prices in the Commonwealth for 1916-17 was 1443 compared with 1298 for 1915-16. This shews an increase of 11.2 per cent., compared with a decrease during the same period of 2.8 per cent. in the purchasing-power-of-money index-number, and with a decrease of 3.6 per cent. in wholesale prices. The index-numbers for previous years for the various groups and for all groups together are shewn in the following table:—

Commonwealth Import and Export Values. Index-Numbers for each Group, and all Groups combined.

Particulars.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Textiles.	III. Agricul- tural Produce.	IV. Meat, Dairy Produce, etc.	V. Grocer- ies, etc.	VI. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.*
	No. of Commodities.	5	4	7	7	7	14	44
1901	1,046	730	884	978	994	979	911
1902	1,015	828	1,011	1,010	969	934	959
1903	931	885	863	993	956	842	918
1904	888	935	707	915	908	877	870
1905	867	915	950	888	902	899	907
1906	962	947	951	888	889	906	921
1907	1,017	987	823	929	1,005	937	935
1908	981	882	1,148	1,004	1,002	902	993
1909	958	879	1,081	914	937	970	952
1910	980	1,013	1,033	940	970	1,017	989
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,061	980	1,238	1,038	1,030	1,044	1,067
1913	1,086	934	1,126	1,043	1,018	1,110	1,045
1914-15† ..	1,001	966	1,239	1,253	1,154	1,087	1,141
1915-16† ..	1,138	1,019	1,522	1,475	1,308	1,072	1,298
1916-17† ..	1,340	1,537	1,066	1,562	1,494	1,339	1,443

* Weighted Average.

† The year ending 30th of June in each case.

3. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Of the six groups into which the 44 commodities are classified, the index-numbers for five groups were higher in 1916-17 than in the preceding year. These groups are :—Group I. (Metals and Coal), Group II. (Textiles), Group IV. (Meat, Dairy Produce, etc.), Group V. (Groceries), and Group VI. (Miscellaneous). In the remaining group, viz., Group III. (Agricultural Produce), the index-number decreased in 1916-17. The increases amounted to 17.8, 50.8, 5.9, 14.2 and 24.9, per cent. in Groups I., II., IV., V. and VI. respectively, and the decrease to 30.0 per cent. in Group III.

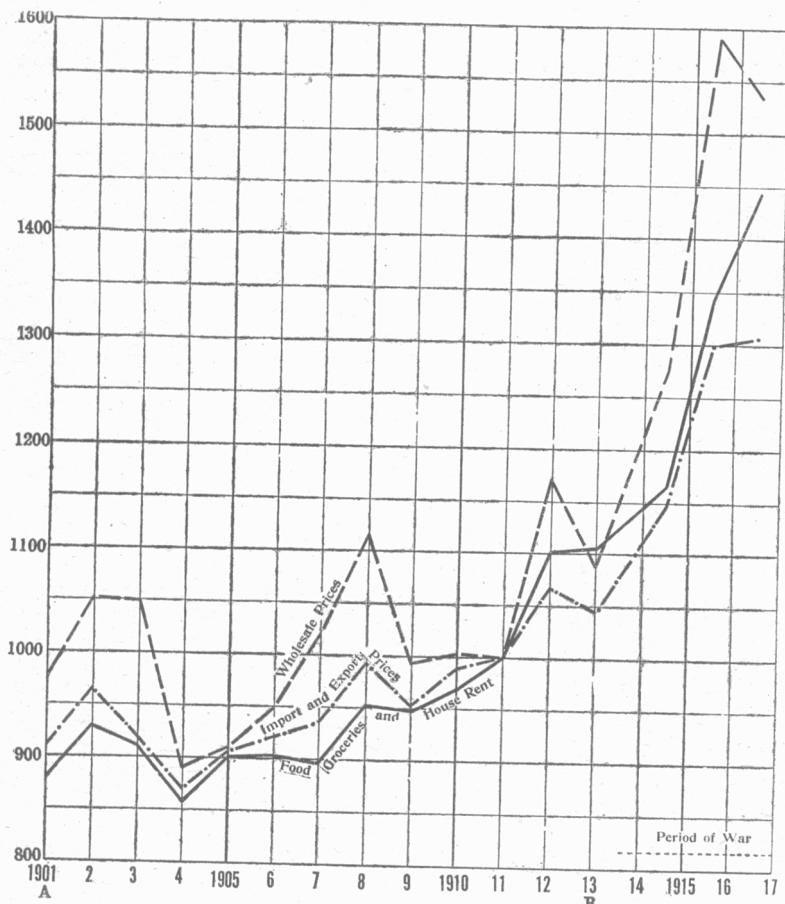
4. **Comparisons between Purchasing-Power of Money, Wholesale and Import and Export Index-Numbers.**—In the following table particulars are given of the purchasing-power of money (retail prices and house rent), wholesale and import and export index-numbers from 1901 to 1916-17, inclusive :—

Food, Groceries, and House Rent, Wholesale Price and Import and Export Price Index-Numbers, 1901 to 1916-17.

YEAR.	INDEX-NUMBERS.		
	Food, Groceries, and House Rent (Weighted Aver- age for 6 Capital Towns).	Wholesale Price (Melbourne).	Import and Export Price (Commonwealth).
1901	880	974	911
1902	929	1,051	959
1903	910	1,049	918
1904	858	890	870
1905	901	910	907
1906	902	948	921
1907	897	1,021	935
1908	951	1,115	993
1909	948	993	952
1910	970	1,000	989
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,101	1,170	1,067
1913	1,104	1,088	1,045
1914-15..	1,164	1,273	1,141
1915-16..	1,344	1,590	1,298
1916-17..	1,307	1,533	1,443

The above index-numbers are shewn in the graph on page 65. In making comparisons between these three sets of index-numbers, it is to be borne in mind that the figures do not, of course, indicate the relation between the different prices themselves, that is between retail and wholesale prices, etc., for the reason that the weighted average prices are in each case made equal to 1000 for the year 1911. The figures shew the relative increase or decrease in each set of price-indexes.

PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, GRAPH SHEWING RELATION BETWEEN COST OF FOOD GROCERIES, AND HOUSE RENT, WHOLESALE PRICES AND IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICES IN AUSTRALIA, 1901 to 1916.



It may be seen that for the years 1901 to 1913 (from A to B on the graph), the index-numbers which represent averages for the years specified, have been plotted on the vertical line of the years to which they refer, from B onwards the index-numbers are plotted midway between the two years. It should be observed that the index-number for the period 1914-15 includes the whole of 1914 and the first half of 1915, but that subsequently they refer to the latter half of one year and the first half of the following year, i.e., from 1st July to 30th June.

SECTION VIII.—CURRENT RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

1. General.—The collection of material respecting the current rate of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State of the Commonwealth was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. The inquiry, which was confined to the rate of wage payable to adult workers only,* was further limited in a degree to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of the capital town in each State.† The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations, and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage being paid was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison, weekly rates of wage were adopted, though in many instances they were actually based on daily or hourly rates, as specified in awards, determinations, or agreements.‡

The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 industries, and related to 1569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,§ and in each State and all States. The average rate of wage thus computed represented the arithmetic average|| of the rate of wage payable in all classified occupations. It was not claimed that results obtained by this method are precisely correct, but owing to the difficulty in obtaining any satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained, no *detailed*

* This limitation was necessary owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers, to whom progressive rates of wage, fixed or otherwise, according to increasing age or experience, are payable from year to year.

† In order to make the inquiry a comprehensive one, it was necessary to include certain industries which obviously are not carried on in the capital towns, *e.g.*, Mining, Shipping, Agricultural, and Pastoral.

‡ This precaution was necessary, in view of the fact that it is often in those industries and occupations in which employment is of an exceptionally casual or intermittent nature that wages are fixed and paid at a daily or hourly rate. Hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the computed weekly rates.

§ The following industrial classification of industries was adopted:—

Classification of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmill, Timber workers, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarrying, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco, &c., Manufacturing.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Hats, Boots, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, etc.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

|| The summation of the weekly rate of wage divided by the number of occupations included.

system of weights could be applied.* For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of weighting was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any year, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represents the relative aggregate average wage for that State for the particular year.†

The whole question of weighting was referred to in some detail in Report No. 1 (*Prices, Price Indexes and Cost of Living*) of the Labour and Industrial Branch of this Bureau. With the necessary verbal modifications, many of the statements there made and the problems there considered in regard to the subject of prices, etc., refer equally to the question of weighting in other investigations, such as the present. Any inquirer wishing to thoroughly understand the subject may refer to that Report.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28-43. In the early part of the year 1914 the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars of the weekly rates of wage in 930 specified industries and 4256 adult occupations (3948 male, and 308 female)‡ were included, and results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-50. These results were further analysed, and the number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was averaged and weighted in a

* Though a great deal of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from the Census (1911) results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries, as set out in the awards, determinations, etc.

† The weights used in the computation of the average wage were as follows:—

Current Rates of Wage for Adult Male Occupations. Weights used for each Industrial Group.

Particulars.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.	XIV.
N.S.W. . .	136	223	199	84	65	162	252	343	187	74	137	704	134	902
Victoria . . .	118	195	160	95	58	141	190	157	136	54	65	455	95	734
Queensland . . .	67	62	108	23	20	34	70	133	73	22	45	352	45	302
S. Australia . . .	24	71	45	16	13	40	68	29	48	17	44	182	24	223
W. Australia . . .	65	36	32	7	8	16	32	142	40	9	32	118	31	158
Tasmania . . .	25	14	17	6	5	7	20	49	10	6	12	104	10	80
C'wealth . . .	435	606	561	231	169	400	632	853	494	182	335	1,915	339	2,399

‡ The weights used in the computation of the average wage in female occupations were as follows:

Current Rates of Wage for Adult Female Occupations. Weights used for each Industrial Group.

Particulars.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I. II. V. VI. Other Manufactures Combined.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.
New South Wales . . .	23	228	44	104	124
Victoria . . .	28	320	57	80	111
Queensland . . .	5	80	8	47	40
South Australia . . .	3	56	7	22	32
Western Australia . . .	1	29	..	29	..
Tasmania . . .	1	18	2	8	..
Commonwealth . . .	61	731	118	290	307

similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, owing, in many instances, to a different number of working hours constituting a full week's work in separate States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, what for some purposes may be considered a more adequate standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations have been kept constant, but the particulars of wages contained in Appendixes IV. and V. to this Report include those for many additional occupations. In most instances these have been taken from awards or determinations made subsequent to that date by industrial tribunals or from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts, or as a result of direct inquiry.

2. Weekly Rates of Wage and Wage Index-Numbers in States and in Classified Industries, 31st December, 1917.—The particulars given in the Appendixes, referred to above, furnish the necessary data for the computation of relative rates of wage in the different States and classified industrial groups at the 31st December, 1917.

(i.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each State, 31st December, 1917.*—The following table shews the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable at the 31st December, 1917, to adult male workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth. These results are based on the rates of wage in a large number of important industries, and serve to indicate with a considerable degree of precision the relative conditions in the several States. For the purposes of comparison as between States it should, however, be observed that the lists of occupations to which the rates of wage refer are not by any means uniform, neither do they necessarily include all the more important industries carried on in each State, and any conclusions drawn from such comparisons must be subject to these qualifications. Taking the weighted average rate of wage for the six States as base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are also shewn.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st December, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Number of Occupations included ..	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage	s. d. 64 5	s. d. 63 0	s. d. 65 3	s. d. 63 1	s. d. 68 11	s. d. 59 7	s. d. 64 2*
Index-Numbers	1,003	982	1,017	983	1,074	929	1,000*

* Weighted average.

The results shew that the weighted average nominal rate of wage was highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania.

(ii.) The following table gives particulars in regard to the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage at the 31st December, 1917, for adult male workers in each of the several industrial groups and to the weighted average for all groups combined. In computing the index-number for each industrial group, the weighted average rate of wage for all groups is taken as base (= 1000).

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each Industrial Group, 31st December, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Rate of Wage (for Full Week's Work).	Index-Numbers
		s. d.	
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	270	66 0	1,028
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	636	65 0	1,013
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	576	63 7	991
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. . .	124	59 7	928
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	205	70 6	1,098
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	875	63 10	994
VII. Building . . .	190	72 5	1,129
VIII. Mining . . .	161	78 4	1,221
IX. Rail & Tram Services . . .	224	65 11	1,027
X. Other Land Transport . . .	70	62 0	966
XI. Shipping, etc. . .	198	61 2†	954
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	72	61 1‡	951
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	114	53 11§	840
XIV. Miscellaneous . . .	233	60 9	947
All Groups . . .	3,948	64 2	1,000*

* Weighted average. † Including the value of victualling and accommodation (estimated at 45s. per month) where supplied. ‡ Including the value of Board and Lodging where supplied as follows:—In the agricultural industry, 14s. per week in Victoria and 15s. in the remaining States; in the pastoral industry, 15s. in West Australia, 17s. in Tasmania, and 20s. in the remaining States. § Including the value of Board and Lodging where supplied as follows:—In Sydney 15s. 6d. to 19s., in Melbourne 14s., in Brisbane 14s. and 15s., in Perth 22s., and in Adelaide and Hobart 15s.

It may be seen from the above table that the highest weighted average wage at the end of the year 1917 was paid to employees in the Mining industry (Group VIII.), 78s. 4d. per week, followed by Group VII. (Building), 72s. 5d., and Group V. (Books, Printing, etc.), 70s. 6d. The lowest weighted average wage was that paid to persons engaged in Hotels, Restaurants, etc. (Group XIII.), 53s. 11d. The average wage paid in the Mining industry (Group VIII.) was 22 per cent. higher, while the average in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.) was 16 per cent. lower than the average wage for all groups.

(iii.) The following table shews the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable at 31st December, 1917, to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth. Taking the weighted average rate of wage for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are given:—

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st December, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Number of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage Index-Numbers	s. d. 30 5 998	s. d. 30 4 996	s. d. 30 5 999	s. d. 27 9 910	s. d. 38 10 1,276	s. d. 28 5 932	s. d. 30 5* 1,000*

* Weighted average.

The highest weighted average nominal rate of wage for female workers was paid in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales and Queensland (equal), Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia.

(iv.) The following table gives particulars regarding the weighted average nominal rate of wage for adult females in those industrial groups in which they are mainly employed, and the weighted average for all groups combined. Index-numbers based on the weighted average for all groups as base (= 1000) are also given:—

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in Industrial Groups, 31st December, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Rate of Wage (for Full Week's Work).	Index-Numbers.
III. Food, Drink, etc...	35	s. d. 26 4	865
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	114	29 7	972
I., II., V., VI. All Other Manufacturing Combined	84	30 4	996
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	57	33 5*	1,098
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc	18	30 6	1,001
All Groups	308	30 5	1,000†

* See footnote to table on preceding page. † Weighted average.

The results set out in the above table shew that the highest weighted average wage was paid in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 33s. 5d., followed in order by Group XIV. (Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.), 30s. 6d., and the combined Manufacturing group, 30s. 4d. The average wage paid to employees in Group III. (Food, Drink, etc.), 26s. 4d., is 14 per cent. lower, while that paid in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.) is 10 per cent. higher than the average rate of wage for all groups.

3. Relative Weekly Wages and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and for all States, 1914-17.—The arithmetic average of the rates of wage given in the appendixes referred to furnish the basis for the computation of relative weighted wages in different industrial groups and States. In the following tables particulars are given of the results thus obtained of the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult workers, male and female, separately, at the 30th

April, 1914, and approximately at the end of each subsequent quarterly period to the 31st December, 1917, for a full week's work, in each State and for all States.

(i.) *Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each State, 1914-17.*—The following tables shew the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult male workers for a full week's work, together with index-numbers for each State at each specified interval based on the average for all States at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1000).

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.

NOTE.—Index-number based on the average wage for the Commonwealth at the 30th April, 1914 (55.12s.) as base (=1000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
No. of Occupations Included.	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948
30th April, 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	55 9	54 3	52 8	54 4	62 2	52 6
30th June, 1914	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	55 1
	Index-numbers ..	1,011	984	955	986	1,128	952
30th Sept., 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,000
	Index-numbers ..	1,014	985	958	986	1,139	954
31st Dec., 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	1,019	990	967	988	1,140	956
31st Mar., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,008
	Index-numbers ..	1,021	992	967	984	1,144	957
30th June, 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	56 8	54 8	53 3	54 3	63 1	52 9
30th Sept., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	55 7
	Index-numbers ..	1,028	992	967	984	1,145	957
31st Dec., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,012
	Index-numbers ..	1,031	996	974	985	1,145	958
31st Mar., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,015
	Index-numbers ..	1,044	1,002	986	992	1,149	965
30th June, 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	58 2	56 7	55 1	55 8	63 4	53 9
30th Sept., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	56 0
	Index-numbers ..	1,055	1,026	999	1,011	1,149	976
31st Dec., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	1,044	1,002	986	992	1,149	965
31st Mar., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,039
	Index-numbers ..	1,055	1,026	999	1,011	1,149	976
30th June, 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-numbers ..	1,069	1,035	1,024	1,018	1,149	986
30th Sept., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,051
	Index-numbers ..	59 6	57 9	57 11	56 6	63 8	54 9
31st Dec., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,064
	Index-numbers ..	1,079	1,047	1,051	1,025	1,155	993
31st Mar., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,100
	Index-numbers ..	1,123	1,067	1,095	1,071	1,182	1,034
30th June, 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,115
	Index-numbers ..	62 7	60 0	61 2	59 8	65 5	57 6
30th Sept., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,132
	Index-numbers ..	63 5	61 2	62 4	61 0	66 4	57 7
31st Dec., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	1,147
	Index-numbers ..	64 5	63 0	65 3	63 1	68 11	59 7
	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	64 2
	Index-numbers ..	1,168	1,143	1,183	1,144	1,250	1,081

In the preceding table it will be seen that the average weekly wage for adult male workers, as indicated by index-numbers at the 30th April, 1914, in two States, viz., New South Wales and Western Australia, exceeded the weighted average wage for the Commonwealth. This feature remained constant in varying degrees of excess throughout the

period under review until the end of September, 1917, when the index-number representing the average wage for Queensland also was higher than the weighted average wage index-number for the Commonwealth.

(ii.) *Weighted Average Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers in each State, 1914-17.*—The first part of the following table shews the weighted average weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth at the 30th April, 1914, and at approximately quarterly periods to the 31st December, 1917. The table shews index-numbers for each State based on the average weekly wage at the end of each of the periods indicated, computed from the weighted average wage for all States at the 30th April, 1914, as base (=1000).

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.

NOTE.—Index-number based on the average wage for the Commonwealth at the 30th April, 1914 (27.19s.) as base (= 1000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Particulars.	N.S.W.		Vic.		Q'land.		S.A.		W.A.		Tas.		C'wlth.	
	No. of Occupations Included.	85	87	37	47	24	24	28	308					
30th April, 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		26 9	27 4	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2						
	Index-numbers ..	984	1,006	989	885	1,373	950	1,000						
30th June, 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2						
	Index-numbers ..	984	1,006	993	885	1,373	950	1,000						
30th Sept., 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		26 10	27 9	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 4						
	Index-numbers ..	987	1,022	990	885	1,373	950	1,006						
31st Dec., 1914.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5						
	Index-numbers ..	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008						
31st Mar., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		26 10	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 1						
	Index-numbers ..	987	989	999	883	1,376	964	996						
30th June, 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 2	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 2						
	Index-numbers ..	998	989	999	883	1,376	964	1,000						
30th Sept., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 3	26 11	26 11	24 0	37 5	28 0	27 3						
	Index-numbers ..	1,003	990	990	883	1,376	1,031	1,002						
31st Dec., 1915.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 5	26 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 0	27 4						
	Index-numbers ..	1,007	990	990	901	1,376	1,031	1,005						
31st Mar., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 4	27 9						
	Index-numbers ..	1,015	1,025	991	901	1,376	1,042	1,022						
30th June, 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	27 9	27 9						
	Index-numbers ..	1,013	1,027	991	902	1,376	1,019	1,021						
30th Sept., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		27 11	28 2	27 2	24 10	37 5	27 9	28 1						
	Index-numbers ..	1,027	1,037	998	913	1,376	1,019	1,032						
31st Dec., 1916.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		28 7	28 6	27 4	24 11	38 10	28 4	28 6						
	Index-numbers ..	1,050	1,047	1,004	915	1,429	1,041	1,047						
31st Mar., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		29 1	28 10	27 5	25 9	38 10	28 4	28 11						
	Index-numbers ..	1,072	1,061	1,009	947	1,430	1,042	1,064						
30th June, 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		29 3	28 10	27 9	27 3	38 10	28 4	29 1						
	Index-numbers ..	1,078	1,061	1,021	1,004	1,430	1,042	1,071						
30th Sept., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		30 2	29 7	30 0	27 8	38 10	28 4	30 0						
	Index-numbers ..	1,109	1,090	1,105	1,019	1,430	1,042	1,105						
31st Dec., 1917.	Weighted average weekly rate of wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
		30 5	30 4	30 5	27 9	38 10	28 5	30 5						
	Index-numbers ..	1,119	1,116	1,120	1,020	1,430	1,045	1,121						

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the general upward movement in the average weekly wage for adult female workers, as indicated for the whole Commonwealth, was comparatively small during

1914 and 1915. From the beginning of the year 1916, the increase in the average wage is more noticeable. The advance during the whole period under review has been 12.1 per cent., and this increase has practically taken place since the beginning of 1916.

(iii.) *Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each Industrial Group, 1914-1917.*—The following table gives particulars in regard to (a) the average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (b) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, as at 30th April, 1914, and at approximately quarterly periods to the 31st December, 1917. Index-numbers for each industrial group and all groups, based on the average wage for all groups at 30th April, 1914 (= 1000), are given.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-numbers in each Industrial Group, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.†

NOTE.—Index-numbers for each industrial group and all industrial groups, based on the average wage for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage,
and Index-Number at—

Industrial Group.	30th April, 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Dec., 1915.	31st Dec., 1916.	31st Mar., 1917.	30th June, 1917.	30th Sept., 1917.	31st Dec., 1917.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. { Wage ..	58 6	59 6	60 2	63 10	63 11	65 2	66 0	
Index-No.	1,062	1,080	1,092	1,159	1,160	1,160	1,183	1,198
II. Engineering, etc. { Wage ..	57 0	57 9	60 2	62 1	62 10	63 3	64 6	65 0
Index-No.	1,035	1,048	1,092	1,127	1,141	1,148	1,171	1,180
III. Food, Drink, etc. { Wage ..	55 0	55 8	57 9	61 2	62 1	62 7	63 1	63 7
Index-No.	999	1,011	1,048	1,111	1,127	1,136	1,145	1,154
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. { Wage ..	52 3	53 0	53 2	56 7	57 1	57 8	59 2	59 7
Index-No.	949	962	965	1,027	1,036	1,047	1,074	1,082
V. Books, Printing, etc. { Wage ..	63 3	63 10	64 6	68 1	68 9	69 10	70 2	70 0
Index-No.	1,150	1,159	1,171	1,236	1,248	1,268	1,274	1,280
VI. Other Manufacturing { Wage ..	55 1	56 0	57 8	61 8	62 2	62 8	63 10	63 10
Index-No.	1,000	1,017	1,047	1,120	1,129	1,138	1,141	1,159
VII. Building .. { Wage ..	65 0	65 5	65 10	69 8	70 3	70 11	71 9	72 5
Index-No.	1,180	1,188	1,195	1,265	1,275	1,288	1,303	1,315
VIII. Mining, etc. .. { Wage ..	65 1	65 2	66 7	72 9	76 8	77 3	77 4	78 4
Index-No.	1,182	1,183	1,209	1,321	1,392	1,403	1,404	1,422
IX. Railways, etc. .. { Wage ..	59 8	59 8	60 10	63 4	63 7	64 0	65 11	65 11
Index-No.	1,083	1,083	1,104	1,150	1,154	1,162	1,197	1,197
X. Other Land Transport { Wage ..	51 0	52 8	53 4	57 10	58 1	58 6	61 8	62 0
Index-No.	926	956	968	1,050	1,054	1,062	1,120	1,126
XI. Shipping, etc.* .. { Wage ..	48 10	49 10	52 7	59 1	61 0	61 0	61 0	61 2
Index-No.	887	905	955	1,073	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,111
XII. Agricultural, etc.* .. { Wage ..	49 5	49 5	49 8	55 0	55 4	58 4	58 9	61 1
Index-No.	897	897	902	999	1,005	1,059	1,067	1,109
XIII. Domestic, etc.* .. { Wage ..	47 0	47 11	48 7	51 0	52 2	52 11	53 9	53 11
Index-No.	853	870	882	926	947	961	976	979
XIV. Miscellaneous .. { Wage ..	53 7	54 0	54 7	58 3	58 8	59 1	60 2	60 9
Index-No.	973	980	991	1,058	1,065	1,072	1,092	1,103
All Industrial Groups .. { Wage ..	55 1	55 7	56 6	60 8	61 5	62 5	63 3	64 2
Index-No.	1,000	1,008	1,023	1,100	1,115	1,132	1,147	1,164

* See footnote to table on page 69. † Particulars for the quarters omitted from this table will be found on page 423 of Report No. 7.

The above table shews that the rate of increase in the weighted average weekly wage in occupations and callings classified in the fourteen industrial groups was greatest in Group XI. (Shipping), 25.3 per cent., followed in the order named by Groups XII. (Agricultural, etc.), 23.6 per cent., and X. (Other Land Transport), 21.6 per cent. In ten of the groups the increase was less, and in four groups more than the increase in the weighted average for all groups.

(iv.) *Weighted Average Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Female Workers in Industrial Groups, 1914-17.*—The following table gives particulars of the weighted average weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers at the 30th April, 1914, and at approximately quarterly periods to the 31st December, 1917, in the industrial groups in which they are mainly employed, and in all groups combined. Taking the average wage for all groups at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000), index-numbers are given, computed on the average rate of wage ruling at the end of each period indicated.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-numbers in each Industrial Group, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.‡

NOTE.—Index-number for each Industrial Group and all Industrial Groups, based on the Average Wage for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000). The index-numbers in this table are comparable throughout.

Industrial Group.	Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage, and Index-Number at—							
	30th April, 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Dec., 1915.	31st Dec., 1916.	31st Mar., 1917.	30th June, 1917.	30th Sept., 1917.	31st Dec., 1917.
III. Food, Drink, etc.								
	{ Wage	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Index-No.	22 6	23 5	24 5	25 4	25 6	25 8	25 11
		828	862	899	932	939	945	954
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.								
	{ Wage	24 9	24 11	25 1	26 11	27 4	27 7	28 10
	Index-No.	911	917	923	991	1,006	1,015	1,061
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manufacturing								
	{ Wage	26 11	27 0	27 4	29 5	29 8	30 0	30 4
	Index-No.	991	994	1,006	1,083	1,092	1,104	1,113
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.*								
	{ Wage	31 1	30 2	30 9	31 2	31 8	32 0	33 3
	Index-No.	1,144	1,110	1,132	1,147	1,166	1,178	1,224
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
XIV. Miscellaneous								
	{ Wage	30 2	31 4	30 1	29 10	30 4	30 6	30 6
	Index-No.	1,110	1,153	1,107	1,098	1,116	1,123	1,123
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
All Groups								
	{ Wage	27 2	27 5	27 4	28 6	28 11	29 1	30 0
	Index-No.	1,000	1,008	1,005	1,047	1,064	1,071	1,055
	{ s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.

* See footnote to table on page 69. † Weighted average. ‡ Particulars for the quarters omitted from this table will be found on page 424 of Report No. 7.

It may be seen from the above table that the greatest increase in the weekly rate of wage has occurred in Group IV. (Clothing, Boots, etc.), 19.5 per cent., followed in the order named by Groups III. (Food, Drink, etc.) 17.0 per cent., I., II., V. and VI. (All Other Manufacturing), 12.6 per cent., XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 7.5 per cent., and the last group (Miscellaneous), 1.2 per cent. The weighted average weekly rate of wage for all groups was 12.1 per cent. higher at the end of 1917 than on the 30th April, 1914.

4. Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 31st December, 1917.—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Section relate to the minimum rates payable for a full week's work. It should be observed, however, that the number of hours which constitute a full week's work differs in many instances, not only as between various trades and occupations in each State, but also as between the same trades and occupations in the several States. In order to secure what may be for some purposes a more adequate standard of comparison, the results given in the preceding paragraphs are herein reduced to a common basis, viz., the rate of wage per hour, classified according to industrial groups in each State and all States. In Appendices IV. and V. of this Report, particulars in detail regarding the number of hours worked per week in the various industries in the several States are shewn. It will there be seen that the specified number of hours of labour per week cover a very wide range. In the following tables the average number of hours per week for each State, according to industrial groups, is given.

The tables on page 76 and 77 shew (a) the average weekly wage, (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Owing to the fact that many of the occupations included in these two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and that the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or otherwise, the necessary particulars for the computation of average working time and hourly rates of wage are not available.

The general effect of reducing the weighted average rates of wage to a common basis (*i.e.*, per hour) is to eliminate on comparison any apparent difference between the several States which may be due to unequal working time.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage, Payable to Adult Male Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.†	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	Weekly Wage	67/6	63/1	67/11	61/9	69/1	62/-	66/-
	Working Hours	48.02	48.07	46.24	47.90	48.00	48.00	47.75
	Hourly Wage	1/4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{3}{4}$	1/5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	65/11	64/6	64/11	62/1	68/9	61/6	65/-
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	45.74	48.00	48.95	48.00	47.77
	Hourly Wage	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1/5	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{4}$
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	64/1	62/3	66/2	63/5	62/10	56/1	63/7
	Working Hours	48.56	48.53	47.71	48.43	49.85	49.26	48.47
	Hourly Wage	1/3 $\frac{3}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3	1/1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{3}{4}$
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	61/6	56/11	64/5	58/10	63/9	52/11	59/7
	Working Hours	47.79	48.00	47.33	48.00	48.00	48.00	47.86
	Hourly Wage	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4	1/1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	72/2	70/1	67/9	69/-	70/-	69/3	70/6
	Working Hours	46.73	45.93	45.30	47.56	45.77	46.00	46.28
	Hourly Wage	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/6	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/6	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	65/-	62/4	63/3	63/10	66/2	62/3	63/10
	Working Hours	47.98	48.13	46.91	48.09	48.09	48.15	47.96
	Hourly Wage	1/4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1/4	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4
VII. Building .. .	Weekly Wage	75/6	70/10	71/6	68/11	70/1	68/2	72/5
	Working Hours	47.28	44.32	44.00	45.19	47.90	47.26	45.83
	Hourly Wage	1/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/7
VIII. Mining‡ .. .	Weekly Wage	75/5	74/3	84/4	91/4	85/8	66/11	78/4
	Working Hours	45.18	44.94	43.03	44.44	47.50	47.18	45.28
	Hourly Wage	1/8	1/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2/0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/5	1/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
IX. Rail & Tram Services	Weekly Wage	65/11	64/7	70/7	64/8	64/11	59/11	65/11
	Working Hours	48.29	48.15	48.79	48.50	48.46	49.80	48.39
	Hourly Wage	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4	1/4	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	59/7	63/2	65/4	61/9	66/-	64/5	62/-
	Working Hours	54.89	51.56	50.92	49.45	48.00	51.88	52.47
	Hourly Wage	1/1	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	Weekly Wage ||	60/1	64/1	58/7	64/10	57/8	64/-	61/2
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage§	61/1	59/6	62/11	60/7	66/3	56/2	61/1
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage§	56/9	51/5	49/8	52/-	60/1	43/6	53/11
	Working Hours	56.55	56.86	56.00	54.70	55.53	58.00	56.38
	Hourly Wage	1/-	-10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/1	-9	-11 $\frac{1}{2}$
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	60/3	61/11	59/4	60/6	62/5	57/9	60/9
	Working Hours	48.61	48.59	48.26	47.82	46.98	48.26	48.37
	Hourly Wage	1/3	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4	1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3
All Groups	Weekly Wage	64/5	63/-	65/3	63/1	68/11	59/7	64/2
All Groups excepting XI and XII	Weekly Wage	65/5	63/9	66/5	63/8	70/1	60/10	65/1
	Working Hours	48.41	48.14	47.19	47.82	48.10	48.48	48.10
	Hourly Wage	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/4	1/5	1/4	1/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1/3	1/4 $\frac{1}{2}$

† Particulars relate to the Average Weighted weekly wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. ‡ Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State. § Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers, and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation, where provided, at 45s. per month, but does not include value of commission on bar sales to stewards. In the recent award for Masters and Officers on inter-State and intra-State merchant vessels, the annual value of victualling and accommodation, which was estimated in 1910 at £30, was computed to be £43 17s. § See footnotes to table on page 69.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1917.

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.*	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	26/1	27/1	26/5	23/3	21/3	24/9	26/4
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00
	Hourly Wage	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/5 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	30/3	29/3	30/-	26/7	35/11	26/3	29/7
	Working Hours	47.79	48.00	47.64	48.00	48.00	46.50	47.86
	Hourly Wage	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/9	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$
I. II. V. & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	29/10	30/11	26/-	33/3	..	32/-	30/4
	Working Hours	47.17	47.90	47.43	47.50	..	48.00	47.57
	Hourly Wage	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{3}{4}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	-/8	-/7 $\frac{3}{4}$
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage†	33/5	31/5	33/10	28/8	42/5	32/8	33/5
	Working Hours	51.01	50.46	52.50	50.67	49.60	58.00	51.13
	Hourly Wage	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{3}{4}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{3}{4}$
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	29/1	33/4	28/9	28/3	..	..	30/6
	Working Hours	50.29	48.00	48.00	49.00	..	..	49.03
	Hourly Wage	-/7	-/8 $\frac{1}{4}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7	..	..	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$
All Groups ..	Weekly Wage	30/5	30/4	30/5	27/9	38/10	28/5	30/5
	Working Hours	48.98	48.32	48.99	48.73	48.78	49.83	48.71
	Hourly Wage	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/9 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/6 $\frac{1}{2}$	-/7 $\frac{1}{2}$

* The particulars relate to the Average Weighted weekly rates of wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. † See footnote to table on page 69.

5. **Relative Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wage, 1914 to 1917.**—Particulars are given in the following table, classified according to States for male and female occupations separately at 30th April, 1914, at the 31st December, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917. These particulars relate to (a) the weighted average weekly wage, (b) the weighted average number of working hours constituting a full week's work, and (c) the weighted average hourly wage. It should be observed that the weighted average weekly wage relates to all industrial classes combined, and includes the value of board and lodging where supplied in land occupations and the value of victualling in marine occupations,§ whereas the number of working hours, and the hourly wage relate to all industrial classes other than Groups XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Owing to the fact that many of the occupations included in these two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and that the hours of labour in these occupations are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or otherwise, the necessary data for the computation of the average number of working hours are not available.

§ See footnotes to table on page 76.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 30th April, 1914, 31st December, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Date.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'with.
MALE WORKERS.								
30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage* ..	55 9	54 3	52 8	54 4	62 2	52 6	55 1
	Working Hours† ..	49.42	48.80	48.78	48.60	47.78	48.62	48.93
	Hourly Wage† ..	13.93d.	13.63d.	13.45d.	13.84d.	16.33d.	13.02d.	13.96d.
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage* ..	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
	Working Hours† ..	49.35	48.66	48.64	48.59	48.18	48.62	48.87
	Hourly Wage† ..	14.11d.	13.82d.	13.75d.	13.86d.	16.37d.	13.07d.	14.09d.
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage* ..	57 7	55 3	54 4	54 8	63 4	53 2	56 6
	Working Hours† ..	49.28	48.50	48.56	48.50	48.12	48.56	48.77
	Hourly Wage† ..	14.50d.	14.05d.	14.07d.	13.98d.	16.50d.	13.20d.	14.38d.
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage* ..	61 11	58 10	60 4	59 0	65 2	57 0	60 8
	Working Hours† ..	48.51	48.22	48.27	48.14	48.11	48.55	48.33
	Hourly Wage† ..	15.73d.	14.99d.	15.32d.	15.01d.	16.84d.	14.11d.	15.43d.
31st Dec., 1917	Weekly Wage* ..	64 5	63 0	65 3	63 1	68 11	59 7	64 2
	Working Hours† ..	48.41	48.14	47.19	47.82	48.10	48.48	48.10
	Hourly Wage† ..	16.22d.	15.89d.	16.88d.	15.98d.	17.48d.	15.06d.	16.25d.

FEMALE WORKERS.

Date.	Particulars.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	26 9	27 4	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
	Working Hours ..	49.34	48.54	49.32	49.33	48.69	50.76	49.08
	Hourly Wage ..	6.51d.	6.78d.	6.48d.	5.89d.	9.20d.	6.11d.	6.64d.
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage ..	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
	Working Hours ..	49.34	48.54	49.82	49.33	49.44	50.76	49.11
	Hourly Wage ..	6.53d.	6.87d.	6.53d.	5.85d.	9.06d.	6.11d.	6.70d.
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage ..	27 5	26 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 0	27 4
	Working Hours ..	49.45	48.46	49.84	49.35	49.86	50.14	49.12
	Hourly Wage ..	6.65d.	6.67d.	6.48d.	5.96d.	9.01d.	6.71d.	6.68d.
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage ..	28 7	28 5	27 3	24 10	38 10	28 3	28 5
	Working Hours ..	49.44	48.36	49.85	49.02	49.08	49.83	49.02
	Hourly Wage ..	6.93d.	7.06d.	6.58d.	6.08d.	9.50d.	6.82d.	6.96d.
31st Dec., 1917	Weekly Wage ..	30 5	30 4	30 5	27 9	38 10	28 5	30 5
	Working Hours ..	48.98	48.32	48.99	48.73	48.78	49.83	48.71
	Hourly Wage ..	7.45d.	7.53d.	7.45d.	6.82d.	9.56d.	6.83d.	7.50d.

* Weighted average weekly wage in all industrial classes combined.

† Weighted average working hours per week, and computed hourly rates of wage for all industrial classes excepting Classes XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for occupations classified in industrial Classes XI. and XII.

From the foregoing table it may be seen that with the exception of Western Australia, there has been a diminution in each of the States in the number of working hours constituting a full week's work in both male and female occupations. The effect of these changes on the hourly rate of wage as compared to the general increase in the weekly wage is readily seen from the comparative index-numbers given in the following table. In each instance (male and female occupations separately) the basis taken is the weighted average for the Commonwealth at the 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000).

Relative Index-numbers for Weekly and Hourly Weighted Average Wage, 30th April, 1914, 31st December, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.*

NOTE.—Weighted Average for the Commonwealth at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1000).

Date.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
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MALE WORKERS.

30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage	1,011	984	955	986	1,128	952	1,000
	Hourly Wage	998	980	963	991	1,170	933	1,000
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage	1,019	990	969	988	1,140	956	1,008
	Hourly Wage	1,010	990	985	993	1,173	936	1,009
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage	1,044	1,002	986	992	1,149	965	1,023
	Hourly Wage	1,039	1,006	1,008	1,001	1,182	946	1,030
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage	1,123	1,067	1,095	1,071	1,182	1,034	1,100
	Hourly Wage	1,127	1,074	1,097	1,075	1,206	1,011	1,105
31st Dec., 1917.	Weekly Wage	1,168	1,143	1,183	1,144	1,250	1,081	1,164
	Hourly Wage	1,162	1,138	1,209	1,145	1,252	1,079	1,164

FEMALE WORKERS.

30th April, 1914.	Weekly Wage	984	1,006	989	885	1,373	950	1,000
	Hourly Wage	980	1,021	976	881	1,386	920	1,000
31st Dec., 1914.	Weekly Wage	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008
	Hourly Wage	983	1,035	983	881	1,364	920	1,009
31st Dec., 1915.	Weekly Wage	1,007	990	990	901	1,376	1,031	1,005
	Hourly Wage	1,002	1,005	976	898	1,357	1,011	1,009
31st Dec., 1916.	Weekly Wage	1,050	1,047	1,004	915	1,429	1,041	1,047
31st Dec., 1917.	Hourly Wage	1,044	1,063	991	916	1,431	1,027	1,048
	Weekly Wage	1,119	1,116	1,120	1,020	1,430	1,045	1,121
	Hourly Wage	1,122	1,134	1,122	1,027	1,440	1,029	1,130

* For details as to previous publications see footnote to table on page 80.

SECTION IX.—VARIATIONS IN NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE WAGES.

1. General.—From the beginning of the year 1913, records have been kept of all changes in rates of wage and hours of labour, the number of workers affected, and the methods by which such changes are brought about. The results of these records have been published in the quarterly Labour Bulletins and in Labour Reports Nos. 5, 6, and 7. In order to supplement the results thus obtained, investigations have been made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to shewing their general trend in each State and in various industrial groups. The methods adopted for the collection of the data and computation of the results were explained in Report No. 2 (see pages 23-4), and will not be repeated here. The particulars given in this Section shew variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given shewing variations in effective wages in each State.

The total number of occupations for which particulars are available back to 1891 is 652. In 1913, however, the scope of the investigation was extended, and particulars for that year are available for no fewer than 3948 occupations. The wages on which the index-numbers are based are, in the majority of cases, minimum rates fixed by industrial tribunals, but in some cases, particularly in the earlier years when no minimum rates had been fixed for many trades, either union or predominant rates have been taken.

2. Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage in each and all States, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.—In the following table the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult workers (male and female separately), is shewn for each State and the Commonwealth, as at 30th April, 1914, and approximately quarterly intervals to the 31st December, 1917:—

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Workers for a Full Week's Work in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1917.*

Dates.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
MALES.							
30th April, 1914 ..	55 9	54 3	52 8	54 4	62 2	52 6	55 1
30th June, 1914 ..	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1914 ..	56 2	54 7	53 4	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 6
31st December, 1914 ..	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
31st March, 1915 ..	56 3	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 7
30th June, 1915 ..	56 8	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 9
30th September, 1915 ..	56 10	54 11	53 8	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 0
31st December, 1915 ..	57 7	55 3	54 4	54 8	63 4	53 3	56 6
31st March, 1916 ..	58 2	56 7	55 1	55 8	63 4	53 9	57 3
30th June, 1916 ..	58 11	57 0	56 5	56 1	63 4	54 4	57 11
30th September, 1916 ..	59 6	57 9	57 11	56 6	63 8	54 9	58 8
31st December, 1916 ..	61 11	58 10	60 4	59 0	65 2	57 0	60 8
31st March, 1917 ..	62 7	60 0	61 2	59 8	65 5	57 6	61 5
30th June, 1917 ..	63 5	61 2	62 4	61 0	66 4	57 7	62 5
30th September, 1917 ..	63 9	62 3	63 5	61 6	67 10	58 6	63 3
31st December, 1917 ..	64 5	63 0	65 3	63 1	68 11	59 7	64 2

FEMALES.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th April, 1914 ..	26 9	27 4	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	26 2
30th June, 1914 ..	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th September, 1914 ..	26 10	27 9	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 4
31st December, 1914 ..	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
31st March, 1915 ..	26 10	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 1
30th June, 1915 ..	27 2	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 2
30th September, 1915 ..	27 3	26 11	26 11	24 0	37 5	26 0	27 3
31st December, 1915 ..	27 5	26 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 0	27 4
31st March, 1916 ..	27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 4	27 9
30th June, 1916 ..	27 7	27 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	27 9	27 9
30th September, 1916 ..	27 11	28 2	27 2	24 10	37 5	27 9	28 1
31st December, 1916 ..	28 7	28 5	27 3	24 10	38 10	28 3	28 5
31st March, 1917 ..	29 1	28 10	27 5	25 9	38 10	28 4	28 11
30th June, 1917 ..	29 3	28 10	27 9	27 3	38 10	28 4	29 1
30th September, 1917 ..	30 2	29 7	30 0	27 8	38 10	28 4	30 0
31st December, 1917 ..	30 5	30 4	30 5	27 9	38 10	28 5	30 5

* Details have been published as follows:—To 30th April, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-6); to 31st December, 1914 (Labour Bulletin No. 8, pp. 256-8); to 31st March, 1915, (Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 68-71); to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 170-6); to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11, pp. 264-5); to 31st December, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 12, pp. 413-15); to 31st March, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 13, pp. 82-3); to 30th June, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 14, pp. 190-1); to 30th September, 1916 (Labour Bulletin No. 15, pp. 300-1); to 31st December, 1916 (Labour Report No. 7, pp. 412-426); and to 30th June, 1917 (Labour Bulletin No. 18, pp. 165-168).

(i.) *Adult Male Workers.*—It will be seen that the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult male workers for the whole Commonwealth advanced during the period reviewed by 9s. 1d. In all the States except Queensland the increase was below the average, being in Victoria and South Australia 8s. 9d., in New South Wales 8s. 8d., in Tasmania 7s. 1d., and in Western Australia 6s. 9d. The increase in Queensland amounts to 12s. 7d. At the 30th April, 1914, the highest average rate of wage was 62s. 2d. in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania. At the 31st December, 1917, Western Australia had still the highest average rate of wage followed in the order named by Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania.

(ii.) *Adult Female Workers.*—During the period covered by the table the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage for adult female workers, for the whole Commonwealth, shews considerably less movement, being 3s. 3d. per week only. The greatest increase occurred in New South Wales and South Australia. The decrease of 5d. in Victoria, between the 30th April, 1914, and the end of 1915, was brought about by the reduction, on appeal, of the minimum rates of wage to female clerks and stenographers.

3. Variations in Nominal Wage Index-numbers in Industrial Groups, 1901 to 1917.—The following table shews variations in nominal wage index-numbers, the occupations having been classified in fourteen industrial groups. As already pointed out, these index-numbers are comparable throughout, and shew, not only the variations in wages in each industrial group, but also the relative wages as between the several groups:—

Variations in Nominal Wage Index-numbers in different Industries in the Commonwealth, 1901 to 1917. (Weighted Average Wage for all Groups in 1911 = 1,000.)

Particulars.	No. of occupations included.		1901	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917.
	1901 to 1912.	1913-16.											
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	27	270	1,019	1,051	1,055	1,097	1,125	1,144	1,142	1,161	1,174	1,245	1,288
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	101	636	945	989	995	1,006	1,064	1,104	1,113	1,127	1,174	1,211	1,268
III. Food, Drink, etc.	34	576	871	905	914	928	991	1,038	1,074	1,085	1,127	1,194	1,241
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	13	124	708	867	935	976	981	990	1,019	1,034	1,037	1,104	1,163
V. Books, Printing, etc.	25	205	996	1,021	1,070	1,102	1,149	1,188	1,234	1,246	1,259	1,328	1,376
VI. Other Manufacturing	102	875	907	915	923	947	1,013	1,037	1,076	1,093	1,125	1,203	1,245
VII. Building	67	190	1,050	1,114	1,130	1,163	1,213	1,245	1,270	1,276	1,285	1,359	1,413
VIII. Mining, Quarries, etc.	71	161	1,067	1,116	1,120	1,168	1,194	1,216	1,270	1,272	1,299	1,420	1,528
IX. Rail & Tram Services	68	224	1,021	1,031	1,064	1,074	1,113	1,164	1,165	1,185	1,187	1,236	1,286
X. Other Land Transport	9	70	795	836	836	889	910	993	996	1,026	1,041	1,128	1,210
XI. Shipping, etc.	74	198	751	787	856	857	871	942	953	972	1,026	1,153	1,194
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.	8	72	627	736	787	798	839	944	965	965	969	1,073	1,192
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	17	114	598	626	727	743	887	894	918	935	948	995	1,052
XIV. Miscellaneous	36	233	759	820	843	889	929	1,015	1,045	1,054	1,065	1,137	1,185
All Groups.*	652	3,948	848	900	923	955	1,000	1,051	1,076	1,085	1,102	1,184	1,252

* Weighted average; see graph on page 85 hereof. † The slight decrease in this group was due to a reduction in the award rates in the Furniture Trade in New South Wales, resulting from an appeal made by employers.

4. **Variations in Nominal Wage Index-Numbers in States, 1901 to 1917.**—The following table shews, by means of index-numbers, the variations in wages for all industries in each State, the weighted average wage for the Commonwealth in 1911 being taken as base (= 1000). These results are based generally upon rates of wage prevailing in the capital towns of each State, but in certain industries, such as mining agriculture, etc., rates are necessarily taken for places outside the metropolitan areas:—

Variations in Nominal Wage Index-numbers in different States, 1901 to 1917.
(Weighted Average Wage for Commonwealth in 1911 = 1,000.)

Particulars.	No. of occupations included.													
		1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	
1901 to 1912.	1913-16.													
N.S. Wales . .	158	874	858	910	913	942	968	1,003	1,058	1,088	1,096	1,124	1,208	1,257
Victoria . .	150	909	796	857	871	887	924	985	1,038	1,058	1,065	1,078	1,148	1,229
Queensland . .	87	627	901	914	925	946	960	997	1,010	1,027	1,042	1,060	1,177	1,273
S. Australia . .	134	567	819	858	868	905	951	1,013	1,048	1,061	1,062	1,067	1,151	1,231
W. Australia . .	69	489	1,052	1,053	1,061	1,068	1,116	1,152	1,191	1,214	1,226	1,236	1,272	1,345
Tasmania . .	54	482	719	725	725	732	772	799	934	1,025	1,028	1,039	1,112	1,163
C'wealth*	652	3,948	848	893	900	923	955	1,000	1,051	1,076	1,085	1,102	1,184	1,252

* Weighted average; see graph on page 85.

The significance of the above figures since 1906 can be better appreciated by reference to the graph on page 85 which shews, of course, not only variations in wages in each State from year to year, but also the difference in wage-level as between the several States. From this graph it is clearly seen that, excluding Western Australia, the difference between nominal wages in the several States has decreased very considerably since 1906. This difference is shewn at any point by the vertical distance between the graphs. Wages in Queensland have increased since 1914 at a higher rate than in any other State, and the general level in that State is now higher than in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, or Tasmania. The graphs for Victoria and South Australia lie very close together throughout the period. In Tasmania the first determination under the Wages Boards Acts, 1910 and 1911, came into force in 1911. Since then wages in that State have increased rapidly, and their general level is now not far below those of the other States, except Western Australia.

5. **Average Nominal Weekly Wage in the Several States, 1891 to 1917.**—The following table shews the average weekly rate of wage payable to adult male workers in each State from 1891 to 1917. The wages given in this table are relatively identical with the index-numbers shewn in the table above.

Average Nominal Rates of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each State from 1891 to 1917.

Particulars.	1891.	1896.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	<i>s. d.</i>
N. S. Wales	44	142	143	1146	746	948	349	751	554	355	956	257	761	1164
Victoria ..	40	538	940	943	1144	745	547	450	653	254	354	755	358	1063
Queensland ..	46	644	846	248	1047	448	549	251	151	952	853	554	460	465
S. Australia ..	41	741	842	043	1144	646	448	951	1153	954	454	554	859	631
W. Australia ..	52	453	753	1153	1154	454	957	259	061	062	262	1063	465	268
Tasmania ..	38	635	636	1037	137	539	641	047	1052	652	853	357	059	7
C'wealth ..	43	541	1043	545	946	147	348	1151	353	1055	155	756	660	864

The average weekly rate in 1917 was highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania. In each of the years specified the weekly rates were highest in Western Australia, and lowest in Tasmania. In each of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, the rates shew an increase in each of the years specified except in 1896, when there was a decrease compared with 1891. In South Australia there was an increase in each of the years specified, while in Western Australia the average rates remained constant in 1901, 1906, and 1907, with increases in each other year. In Tasmania there was a decrease in 1896 and again in 1907, and substantial increases in 1912 and 1913.

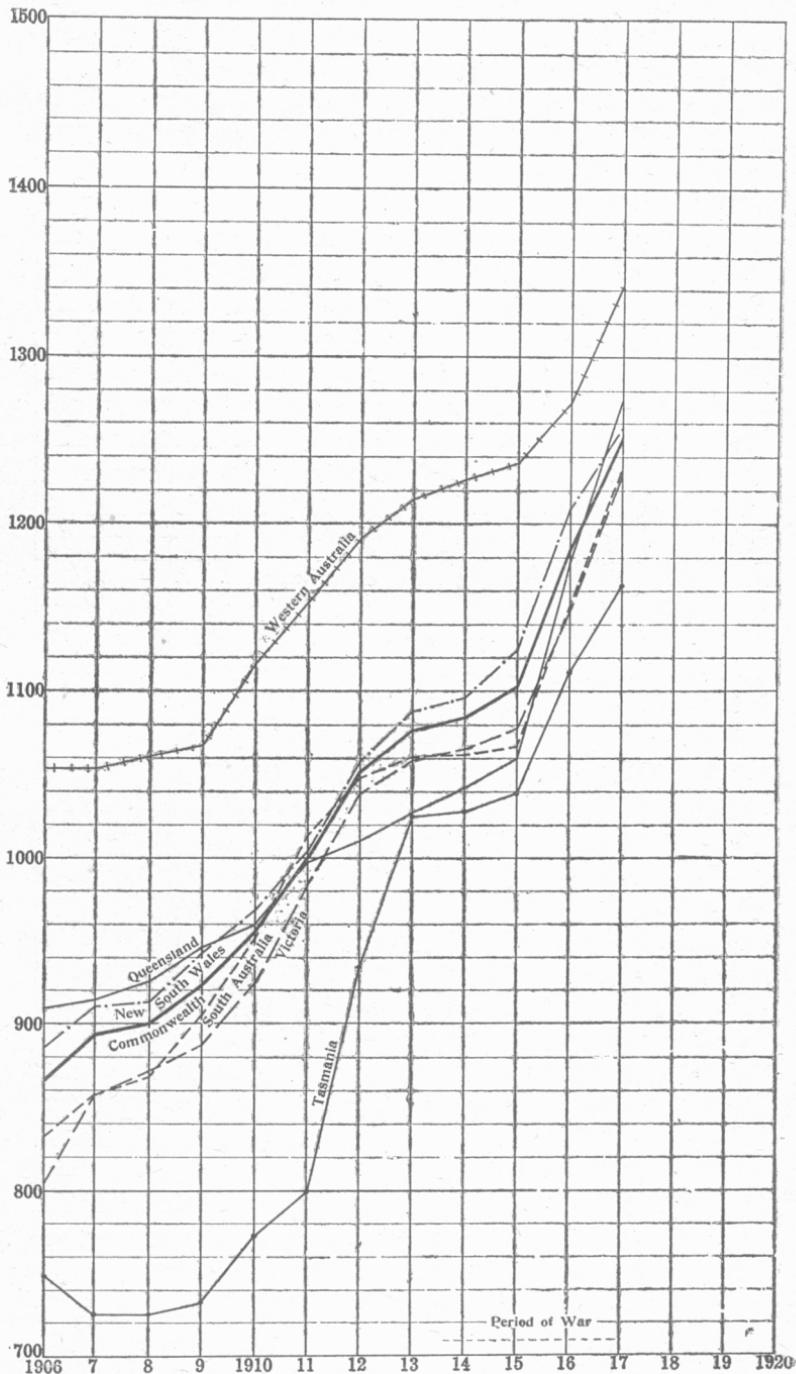
6. **Average Nominal Weekly Wage Payable in Industrial Groups, 1891 to 1917.**—The following table shews for each of the years indicated the average weekly wages payable in each of the fourteen industrial groups. The wages are *relatively* identical with the index numbers shewn in the table on page 81.

Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Male Adult Workers in each Industrial Group from 1891 to 1917.

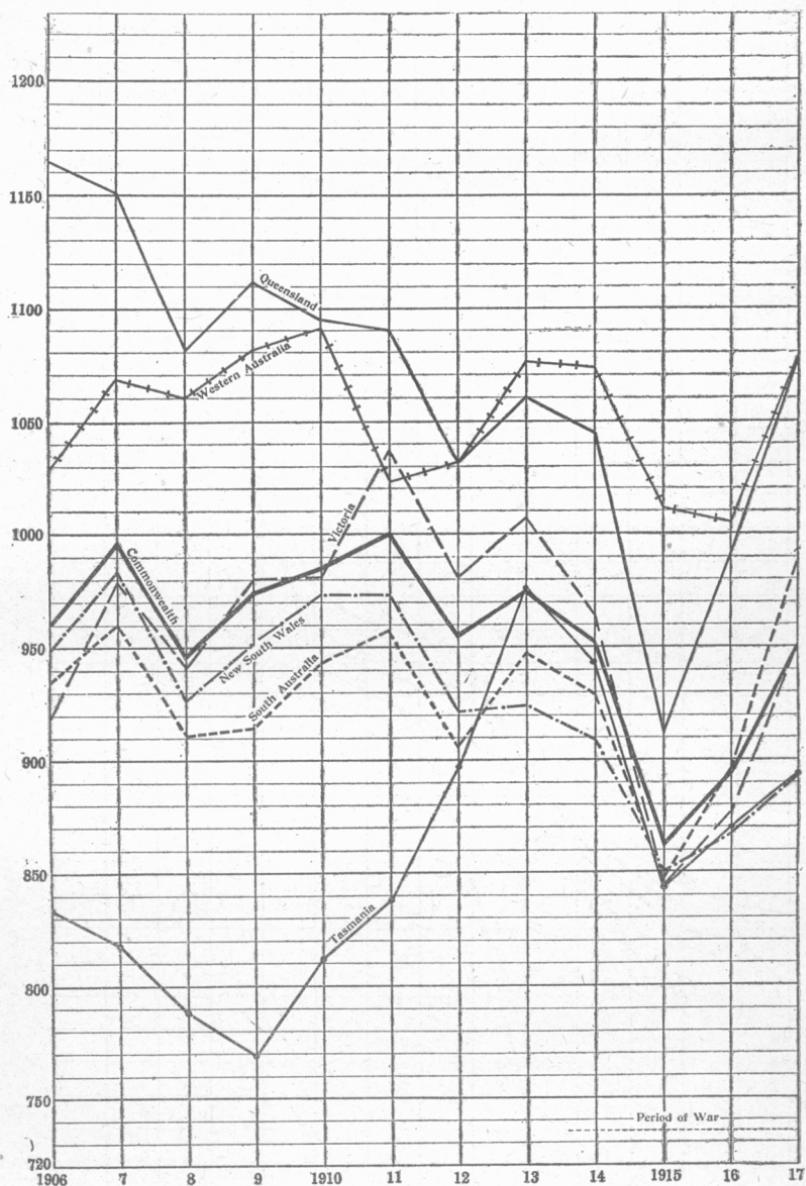
Particulars.	1891.	1896.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	
	s.	d.	s.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Group I.	52	548	42	52	335	93	104	54	156	257	858	758	659	660	263
II.	47	847	748	549	950	851	051	754	656	757	057	960	262	165	0
III.	38	237	114	446	746	346	546	1047	650	953	255	055	857	961	263
IV.	36	836	53	336	343	1044	547	1150	050	350	952	353	053	256	597
V.	53	550	151	051	952	354	1056	658	1160	1163	363	1064	668	170	6
VI.	46	444	846	456	546	446	1047	348	651	1153	155	156	057	861	863
VII.	50	647	653	1056	757	157	1159	762	163	1065	165	565	1069	872	5
VIII.	58	153	104	548	857	357	257	559	1061	262	465	165	266	752	798
IX.	50	1051	52	452	752	1054	655	057	059	759	859	860	1063	465	11
X.	39	636	040	941	842	1042	1045	746	750	1051	152	853	457	1062	0
XI.	38	234	638	540	440	443	1043	1144	748	348	409	1052	759	161	2
XII.	34	1033	632	137	537	840	440	1143	048	449	549	549	855	661	1
XIII.	32	1030	630	831	232	137	338	145	545	1047	047	1148	751	053	11
XIV.	39	738	738	1041	742	043	245	647	752	053	754	054	758	360	9
ALL GROUPS	43	541	1043	545	946	147	348	1151	353	1055	155	756	660	864	2

It may be seen that in 1917 the weekly rate of wage was highest in Group VIII. (Mining), 78s. 4d., while the lowest average weekly rate was in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), where the rate was 53s. 11d. The average weekly rate for all groups together increased in all the years since 1891 except 1896. The rate in 1901 was the same as in 1891 (43s. 5d.), but in 1916 had increased to 60s. 8d., and in 1917 to 64s. 2d.

7. Nominal Wages and Effective Wages.—Wages are said to be *nominal* when they refer to the actual amounts of money received in return for labour, and are described as *effective* when their equivalence in purchasing power is expressed, that is their purchasing power according to some definite "composite unit" or "regimen," the cost of which is ascertained at a particular date or during a particular period adopted as a datum for reference. From what was said in Section IV., par. 3, of Labour Report No. 6, it is obvious that "effectiveness" of wages can be unequivocally ascertained only when changes in price vary normally, that is to say, when it is practicable and reasonable to regard the "composite unit" as continuously applicable. Estimations of the effectiveness of wages when the original regimen or composite unit ceases to be of reasonable application, as may be the case in times of severe drought, war, etc., become of more or less questionable validity. At such times some modification of the accustomed regimen may (or should) take place, and in the degree to which such modification may occur effective wages will become involved in uncertainty. It should, consequently, be borne in mind that index-numbers of effective wages, computed on the supposition of the continual maintenance of a constant regimen cannot be taken to really represent unequivocally the actual effectiveness of wages, they represent rather what *would* have been the effectiveness of wages, had the "composite unit" throughout been virtually the one in use with the wage-earning community. The limitations indicated in Section IV., par. 3, of Labour Report No. 6, already referred to, apply also here. *Fundamental changes in the usage of commodities vitiate this or any other method*, as is obvious from the analysis of the technique for properly ascertaining price-indexes outlined in Report No. 1, Appendix VIII., pp. 23 to 38. Just as there is no unequivocal means of comparing price-indexes, between say a rice-eating and a meat-eating community, or between a community living according to a very elementary standard of comfort, and one living according to a much more advanced standard, so there is in its degree no unequivocal method of computing effectiveness of wages, when the circumstances of the time involve material changes in the "regimen," or are characterised by a temporary passing through abnormal conditions, profoundly affecting the conditions of living.

NOMINAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS IN EACH STATE, AND COMMONWEALTH,
1906 to 1917.

EFFECTIVE WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS IN EACH STATE, AND COMMONWEALTH,
1906 to 1917.



8. **Variations in Effective Wages in each State, 1901 to 1917.**—In comparing wages two elements are of obvious importance, viz., (i.) hours worked per day or week, etc., and (ii.) the purchasing-power of money (in regard to the composite unit adopted). Thus 60s. per week of 60 hours is equivalent to 48s. per week of 48 hours on the time basis. Similarly, on the purchasing-power basis, if the purchasing-power *fall* one fifth, i.e., if the index-number of the purchasing-power *rises* from 1000 to 1250,* then 60s. per week (the index being 1250), is effectively equal only to 48s. (when the index was 1000). Or, again, if the purchasing power *rise* one third, as is implied by a *fall* in the index-number from 1000 to 750, then 60s. per week originally would, as regards the composite unit, be equal in purchasing power to 80s. Ignoring altogether for the present the number of hours worked and subject to the limitations referred to in the preceding paragraph, and further assuming that the real value of the average wages is to be measured by their purchasing power in regard to the "composite unit" adopted, then we can reduce the actual average wages paid to their effective value by applying the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers to the nominal wages index-numbers. The following table shews the effective wage index-numbers in each State for each of the years indicated from 1901 to 1917.

In computing these effective wage index-numbers the nominal wage index-numbers given in paragraph 4 hereof have been divided by the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers in Section IV., paragraph 5 hereinbefore. The resulting index-numbers shew for each State and for the Commonwealth for the years specified the variations in *effective* wages.

Variations in Effective Wages in each State and Commonwealth, 1901 to 1917.*

Particulars.	1901.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
N.S.W. . .	961	983	926	952	973	973	922	924	909	850	867	893
Victoria . . .	915	979	941	980	981	1,037	981	1,007	964	844	877	950
Queensland . . .	1,172	1,151	1,081	1,112	1,095	1,090	1,032	1,060	1,045	912	991	1,078
S. Australia . . .	948	960	911	914	943	957	906	947	929	847	896	989
W. Australia . . .	1,024	1,068	1,060	1,081	1,091	1,023	1,032	1,076	1,073	1,011	1,005	1,079
Tasmania . . .	827	818	788	769	812	838	896	976	943	843	870	894
C'wealth	964	996	946	974	985	1,000	955	975	952	862	894	950

* As to the effect in abnormal periods, see Section IV., par. 3, of Labour Report No. 6.

The figures in the above table from the year 1906 onwards are shewn in the graph on page 86. A comparison between this graph with that on the opposite page shews that the difference between nominal and effective wages is very marked. In the first place, the whole nature of the graphs is entirely different. Instead of having a series of lines shewing a practically continuous and rapid upward trend, the effective wages shew (except for Tasmania) a series of fluctuating points, in which no very marked tendency is immediately discernible. It will be seen that, generally speaking, the years 1907, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1913, 1916 and 1917, were marked by increases in effective wages, but that in each of the years 1908, 1912, 1914, and 1915, there were rapid decreases. In each of these years in which effective wages declined there was a rapid increase in cost of food and groceries (see graphs on pp. 28-30). In 1914 wages increased 0.9 per cent. but purchasing-power-of-money index-number went up 3.1

* Or from any value to one-fifth greater.

per cent., with the result that effective wages decreased 2.3 per cent. In 1915 the nominal wage index-number increased 1.6 per cent., while the purchasing-power-of-money index-number increased 12.1 per cent., resulting in a decrease of 9.5 per cent. in the effective wage. In 1916 the nominal wage index-number increased 7.4 per cent., and the purchasing-power-of-money index-number only 3.6 per cent., which resulted in the effective wage index-number shewing an increase of 3.7 per cent. In 1917 the nominal wage index-number increased 5.7 per cent., and the purchasing-power-of-money index-number decreased 0.5 per cent., resulting in an increase in the effective wage index-number of 6.3 per cent.

One important feature common to both graphs (nominal and effective wages) is the manner in which the graphs for the individual States have, on the whole, approached more closely together. With the adoption of differential rates of wage fixed according to the relative purchasing-power of money, it appears probable that this tendency will continue in the future.

9. Variations in Effective Wages and Standard of Comfort, 1901 to 1917.—In the preceding paragraph particulars are given as to variations in effective wages in each State, due allowance having been made for variations in the purchasing-power of money, though not for unemployment. Attention has also been drawn to the limitations to which they are subject in abnormal times.

If 48 hours per week be the time for which a given wage is paid, say 60s., then for the purpose of estimating the aggregate average earnings, account must be taken of the proportion of time spent in unemployment. For example, if the working days be 300 per year, and the time unemployed be 6 per cent., the actual proportion of working time is 94 per cent., i.e., 18 days are idle in every 300, or 6 per cent. of the period. Similarly if of the employable an average of only 94 per cent. are employed, the measure of unemployment is again 6 per cent., and the employment index-number is 940, i.e., 940 in 1000, or 94 per cent.

For years prior to 1913 the data available as to unemployment are so meagre that comparative results allowing for variations both in the purchasing-power of money and in unemployment cannot be accurately computed for the several States. In the subjoined table, however, the percentage of unemployment for the whole Commonwealth at the end of the years specified has been used in order to obtain results shewing the variations in unemployment upon effective wages. Column I. shews the nominal rate of wage index-numbers (see paragraph 5 hereof), and Column II. the relative percentages unemployed (see Section III.). Applying these percentages to the numbers shewn in Column I., and deducting the results from each corresponding index-number, so as to allow for relative loss of time, the figures in Column III. are obtained. These figures are then recomputed with the year 1911 as base, and are shewn in Column IV. In Column V. the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers are shewn, and in Columns VI. and VII. the effective wage index-numbers are given, firstly, for full work, and secondly, allowing for lost time. These are obtained by dividing the figures in Column I. and IV., respectively, by the corresponding figures in Column V. The resulting index-numbers shew for the Commonwealth for the years specified the variations in *effective* wages or in what may be called the "standard of comfort."*

* See footnote on next page.

A comparison between the figures in Columns I. and VI. shews the relation between the nominal rates of wage and the purchasing efficiency of these rates. The figures in Column VII. (see graph on page 90) shew variations in *effective* wages after allowing not only for variations in purchasing-power of money, but also for the relative extent of unemployment.

Unemployment and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-numbers, 1901 to 1917.†

Year.	Nominal Wage Index-Numbers.	Percentage Unemployed.	Rate of Wage Index-Numbers, allowing for Lost Time.		Purchasing Power of Money Index-Numbers.	Effective Wage Index-Numbers.	
			III.	IV.		VI.	VII.
			Actual.	Recomputed. (1911 = 1,000).		Full Work	Allowing for Unemployment.
1901	848	6.6	793	832	880	964	945
1906	866	6.7	808	848	902	960	940
1907	893	5.7	842	884	897	996	986
1908	900	6.0	846	888	951	946	934
1909	923	5.8	870	913	948	974	963
1910	955	5.6	901	945	970	985	974
1911	1,000	4.7	953	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,051	5.5	993	1,042	1,101	955	946
1913	1,076	5.3	1,021	1,071	1,104	975	970
1914	1,085	11.0	966	1,014	1,140	952	889
1915	1,102	6.8	1,027	1,078	1,278	862	844
1916	1,184	6.7	1,105	1,159	1,324	894	875
1917	1,252	7.4	1,159	1,216	1,318	950	928

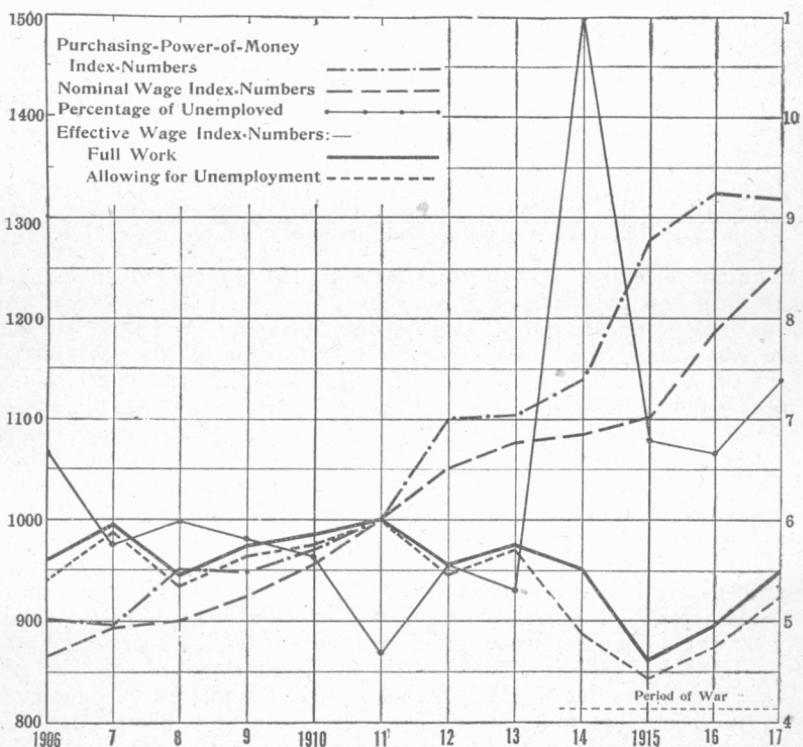
† As to the effect in abnormal periods, see Section IV., par. 3, of Labour Report No. 6.

The above figures for the years 1906 to 1917, inclusive, are shewn in the graph on page 90. It may be seen from the graph that the nominal wage index-number has steadily increased, and that the increase has been at a somewhat greater rate (except in the years 1908, 1912, 1914, and 1915) than the increase in the purchasing-power-of-money index-numbers. Owing to the decreases in these years the effective wage index-numbers (both "Full Work" and "Allowing for Unemployment") do not, on the whole, shew any general increase, but fluctuate between a range which reached its maximum in 1911, and its minimum in 1915. In 1907 there was a large decrease in unemployment, which is reflected in the "peak" in the effective wage index-number for that year. The rise in the purchasing-power-of-money index-number in 1908, which was a drought year, caused a considerable fall in effective wages. From that year, however, until the year 1911, the effective wage index-number steadily increased from 934 to 1000, but this increase was almost counterbalanced by the fall in 1912, which was due to the large increase in the purchasing-power-of-money index-number and the smaller increase in unemployment. In 1913 the purchasing-power-of-money index-number was practically the same as that for 1912, while nominal wages increased and unemployment decreased, with the result that the effective wage index-numbers, both for full work and allowing for unemployment, shew an increase. The effective wage index-numbers for 1914 both shew a decrease since the preceding year. This decrease is particularly marked in the case of the

* This expression must not be confused with "standard of living." A change in the standard of living necessarily involves a change in regimen (see Labour Report No. 1), that is, a change in the nature or in the relative quantity of commodities purchased, or both. A change in the "standard of comfort" merely implies a variation in effective wages, which variation may, or may not, result in, or be accompanied by, a change in the "standard of living."

index-numbers in which allowance is made for unemployment. In 1915 there was a decrease in unemployment when compared with the preceding year, but on the other hand the cost of food and groceries shews a very substantial increase, so that while nominal wages increased slightly, effective wages index-numbers, both for full work and allowing for unemployment, shew a large decrease, and are, in fact, lower than for any other year covered by the investigation. In 1916, and again in 1917, the effective wage index-numbers both for full work and allowing for unemployment shew an increase, due to the fact that the increase in nominal wages index-number has been greater than the increase in the index-number shewing cost of food, groceries, and house rent.

Unemployment, Purchasing-Power of Money, and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers, 1906 to 1917.



EXPLANATORY NOTE.—Each space in the horizontal scale represents one year. The vertical spaces on the left represent the scale for the index-numbers for purchasing-power of money and wages, while the scale on the right from 4 to 11, represents the percentage of unemployment.

10. Relative Productive Activity and Effective Wages, 1871 to 1915.—The preceding tables refer to the matter of variations in effective wages, having regard to fluctuations in cost of living and extent of unemployment. Another important matter in any investigation into increases

in rates of wages is the question of increase in *relative output* or production per head of population, measured quantitatively. If measured by mere value, increase of price would have the effect of making an equal production with that of a time when prices were lower, and shew an increase which would, of course, be misleading. For example, the annual figures shewing the estimated value of production from the Commonwealth industries do not directly shew whether there has been any increase in the *quantity* produced, since the price-level at the time is itself a factor in the determination of the values. Before, therefore, any estimate of the relative increase or decrease in production (that is, in the relative quantity of output) can be formed, the variations due to the price element must be eliminated. This is done in the following table, in which Column I. shews the estimated *value* of production (a) in the aggregate and (b) per head of mean population. In Column II. the estimated value of production per head of population is shewn in the form of index-numbers with the year 1911 as base, that is to say, the production per head in 1911 is made equal to 1000, and the values for the other years computed accordingly. In Column III. Melbourne wholesale and retail price index-numbers are given; it is assumed that these index-numbers reflect, with substantial accuracy, variations in wholesale and retail prices in the Commonwealth as a whole. The figures in Column IV. are obtained by dividing the figures for each year in Column II. by the corresponding figures in Column III. They shew the estimated relative productive activity per head of population, taking the year 1911 as the basic or standard year, the fluctuations due to variations in prices having been eliminated.

Estimated Relative Productive Activity in Commonwealth, 1891 to 1915.

Year.	I.		II.		III.		IV.
	Estimated Value of Production.		Estimated Value of Production per head Index-Number (1911 = 1,000).	(a) Wholesale Price-Index-Number (1911 = 1,000).	(b) Retail Price-Index-Number Six Capital Cities (1911 = 1,000).	Estimated Relative Productive Activity Index-Numbers (1911 = 1,000).	* †
	(a) Total.	(b) Per Head of Population.					
1871 ..	£000 46,700	£ 27.89	661	1,229	..	536	..
1881 ..	71,116	31.34	746	1,121	..	664	..
1891 ..	96,087	30.06	715	945	..	757	..
1901 ..	114,585	30.23	719	974	880	738	817
1906 ..	147,043	36.21	862	948	906	909	951
1907 ..	167,446	40.61	966	1,021	897	946	1,077
1908 ..	164,957	39.33	936	1,115	951	839	984
1909 ..	174,503	40.82	971	993	948	978	1,024
1910 ..	187,734	43.92	1,045	1,000	970	1,042	1,077
1911 ..	188,745	42.03	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	206,732	44.51	1,059	1,170	1,101	905	962
1913 ..	281,101	45.41	1,080	1,088	1,104	993	978
1914 ..	209,485	42.59	1,013	1,149	1,140	882	889
1915 ..	251,589	50.07	1,191	1,604	1,278	742	932

* Index-numbers computed by application of Wholesale Price Index-numbers. † Index-numbers computed by application of Retail Price Index-numbers.

These figures shew that the estimated relative productivity per head of population increased by no less than 86 per cent. from 1871 to 1911, and by nearly 33 per cent. from 1891 to 1911. The increase was not uniform during the whole of the years specified, slight decreases occurring in 1901 and 1911, and a heavy fall in 1908, which was a year of severe drought. The figures further shew that there has been a considerable falling-off in productive activity since 1913.

The above table furnishes the necessary indication of variations in productive activity, based on prices corresponding to the time at which the valuations were made, and obviously the prices used should be "wholesale prices." There is, however, some doubt as to how far the weights, or mass units, *i.e.*, relative quantities of the commodities used for the purpose of weighting prices in order to compute price-indexes which refer to the consumption of those commodities in Australia can be legitimately used. The relative quantities produced for export and home consumption combined, that is, for the whole production, probably varies appreciably from the relative quantities (mass units, or weights) used for home consumption, and the price-indexes for wholesale and retail prices may not be the same as price-indexes of the value production, if such could be computed according to the relative quantities of commodities produced.*

Index-numbers of productive activity computed by the application of retail price index-numbers are included in the table for comparative purposes, though obviously retail price variations cannot be applied to correct apparent variations in productivity with the same degree of accuracy as wholesale price index-numbers.

SECTION X.—OPERATIONS UNDER ARBITRATION AND WAGES BOARD ACTS.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts and the various State Acts for the regulation of wages and hours and conditions of labour, shewing the number of boards authorised, constituted, and in existence and which had or which had not made any award or determination in each State; the number and territorial scope of awards or determinations, and the number of industrial agreements, in force, were first compiled to the 31st December, 1913. §

These particulars have from time to time been revised, and reviews to the end of approximately quarterly periods have been published in the periodical Labour Bulletins to the 30th June, 1917. Information has also been compiled and included in the later issues of the Labour Bulletin, respecting the estimated number of workpeople affected by awards or determinations and industrial agreements in each State. In addition, a brief quarterly epitome has been given of the number of awards and determinations made and industrial agreements filed

* Further, it should be observed that the variations in wholesale prices may vary considerably even during the course of a year. (See Labour Report No. 6, page 52).

§ Information as to the main provisions of the various Acts in force was given in "Labour Bulletin" No. 1, pages 57 to 60.

under the Act in force in each State and the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration and the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Acts. The following tabular statement gives particulars of the operations in each State and under the Commonwealth Statutes during each quarter of the years 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed in each Quarter of 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

State.	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.		Whole Year.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.
1914.										
N. S. Wales ..	15	8	32	28	38	10	12	4	97	50
Victoria ..	15	..	14	..	15	..	3	..	47	..
Queensland ..	9	..	11	3	16	1	5	..	41	4
S. Australia ..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	9
W. Australia ..	2	10	2	5	3	7	2	3	9	25
Tasmania ..	..	..	2	..	4	..	..	..	6	..
Commonwealth ..	..	5	4	10	2	6	..	21*	6	42*
TOTAL ..	42	26	66	46	78	24	22	34	208	130
1915.										
N. S. Wales ..	28	9	40	6	38	6	39	4	145	25
Victoria ..	3	..	2	..	17	..	31	..	53	..
Queensland ..	1	1	7	..	13	2	14	7	35	10
S. Australia ..	..	..	..	1	2	..	6	4	8	5
W. Australia ..	1	7	4	6	2	5	11	3	18	21
Tasmania ..	1	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	8	..
Commonwealth ..	1	..	2	113†	2	18	..	51‡	7	182
TOTAL ..	35	17	55	126	81	31	103	69	274	243
1916.										
N. S. Wales ..	28	7	53	14	53	14	66	14	200	49
Victoria ..	34	..	21	..	18	..	13	..	86	..
Queensland ..	11	2	26	27	18	8	14	5	69	42
S. Australia ..	5	3	7	2	10	..	7	1	29	6
W. Australia ..	3	2	6	3	1	3	4	5	14	13
Tasmania ..	3	..	7	..	3	..	1	..	14	..
Commonwealth ..	..	2	5	3	4	5§	5	11	14	21
TOTAL ..	84	16	125	49	107	30	110	36	426	131
1917.										
N. S. Wales ..	35	14	23	11	31	7	19	11	108	43
Victoria ..	18	..	19	..	22	..	6	..	65	..
Queensland ..	15	3	6	12	21	16	21	11	63	42
S. Australia ..	13	..	11	..	11	1	4	2	39	3
W. Australia ..	..	1	2	11	..	8	2	8	4	28
Tasmania ..	1	..	10	5	12	..	3	..	7	..
Commonwealth ..	1	||65	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	135
TOTAL ..	83	83	71	39	100	41	65	88	319	251

* Of this number 18 agreements were made between the Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association and various employers, in terms of an Award of the Commonwealth Court.

† Of this number, 108 agreements were made between the Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association and various employers, in terms of an award of the Commonwealth Court.

‡ Including 49 agreements made between the Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association and various employers, in terms of an award of the Commonwealth Court.

§ Including 1 agreement varied in respect to wages only.

|| Including 55 separate agreements made between the Australian Saddlery and Leather Workers Trades Employees Federation and various employers

Owing to the prevailing drought conditions and the advent of war during the year 1914, varying restrictive measures were introduced either for the suspension or curtailment of the operations of industrial tribunals in each of the States.* It will be seen from the records for the fourth quarter of 1914 and the first quarter of 1915, that those restrictions were apparently most effective in New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. There is, however, a fundamental difference between the various systems as regards the period for which awards, determinations, and industrial agreements remain in force. In New South Wales awards of industrial boards may be made for any period not exceeding three years, and industrial agreements with a currency not exceeding five years. At the end of the period specified in the award or agreement the instrument lapses unless revised or renewed.† In Western Australia, awards of the Industrial Court may be made for (a) "any specified period not exceeding three years from the date of the award; or (b) for one year, and thenceforward from year to year,"‡ and industrial agreements for a term not exceeding three years. Notwithstanding, however, the expiry of the term for which an award or an industrial agreement has been made, they remain in force in respect of all parties thereto until the expiration of thirty days after notice of intention to retire therefrom has been filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court.§ In Queensland|| awards of the Industrial Court remain in force for a period not exceeding twelve months and thereafter shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award is made. In Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, determinations by wages boards are not made for any specified period and remain in operation until superseded by another determination. In South Australia, however, awards made under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912 remain, subject to any variation ordered by the Court, in force for a period of three years, and thenceforward until a new award is made, but are binding only on those parties to the industrial matter or industrial dispute, who are summoned to appear before the court as parties, except in those cases in which the award is declared by the Court to be a common rule.¶ Awards made under the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Act 1911 are not limited in operation to any period. Awards under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1915 may be made for any period to be specified in the award, not exceeding five years from the date of the award and, after the expiration of the period so specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award is made.** An Industrial Agreement made subsequent to a compulsory conference convened under Section 24 of the Commonwealth Act, has the same effect as an award, and thus remains in force until superseded by an award of the Court or by

* A brief account of the effect of these restrictions was given in "Labour Bulletin" No. 9 (pp. 62-4).

† It is understood that the provisions of these instruments, in so far as they relate to wages and hours of labour, are generally observed, although the period for which they are made has expired.

‡ W.A. Industrial Arbitration Act 1912 Sec. 81.

§ Ibid with respect to Awards, Sec. 83 (1) (2); and with respect to industrial agreements, Sec. 35 (5), (6).

|| The Industrial Arbitration Act of 1916, was assented to on the 18th December, and the Industrial Peace Act 1912 was repealed. The new Act came into force on the 12th January, 1917.

¶ S.A. Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, Sec. 18 (a) (b) (c).

** See Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904-1915, Section 28 (1) (2). Awards under this Act are only operative and binding on the parties named in the plaint.

a further agreement. An Industrial Agreement under Part VI. of the Act may be made for any period not exceeding five years (Sec. 75), but (Sec. 81) in default of any express agreement to the contrary therein contained shall, unless rescinded, and subject to any variation, continue in force after the expiration of the term specified therein, until the expiration of one month after some party thereto has given written notice to the Registrar and to the other parties of his desire to determine it.

It will thus be seen that the restrictive measures adopted affected workers in New South Wales to a greater degree than in the other States. In order to overcome that difficulty and to assist in maintaining the legal minimum wage, a number of awards, extending for varying short periods the operation of expired awards, were made by Industrial Boards during the last quarter of 1914 and the first quarter of 1915. Notwithstanding these awards there were during that period at different times upwards of 50 industries for which awards had expired and in which no legal wage was in force.

During the second quarter of 1915 the restrictions referred to were somewhat relaxed in New South Wales and Queensland, and early in the third quarter operations gradually assumed normal conditions in all the States. During the third and fourth quarters of 1915 greater activity was evidenced in each State, and the number of awards and determinations made by industrial tribunals exceeded those made during any similar period of the two years under review.

Industrial tribunals were very active during the year 1916. The number of awards and determinations made were greatly in excess of the number made during either of the two preceding years. This increased activity was mainly due to applications for a review of existing awards and determinations, owing to the increase in the cost of living. In all States, with the exception of Western Australia, the numbers of awards, etc., made during 1916 exceeded those made during 1915. The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court made 14 awards during 1916, as compared with 7 during the previous twelve months.

During the year 1917 industrial tribunals in the various States continued their activity. The number of awards and determinations (319) made during the year was lower than the number made during the previous twelve months, when 426 awards and determinations were issued. The number of industrial agreements entered into during 1917 was 251, as compared with 131 during the year 1916. The number of awards issued by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court was 33, as compared with 14 during the previous year. The number of industrial agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Act also shewed a large increase in comparison with the number filed during the previous year, the number filed during 1917 being 135, as against 21 during the year 1916.

2. Boards Authorised and Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.—In the following table particulars are given for all States, excepting Western Australia, of the number of boards authorised, constituted, and in existence, and including operations under the Commonwealth and the Western Australian Arbitration Acts, of the number of awards, determinations, and industrial agreements in force in all States at the 31st December, 1913, and at approximately quarterly intervals during the succeeding four years.

Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force at 31st December, 1913, and at Approximately Quarterly Periods to 31st December, 1917.*

Dates.	Boards Authorised.	Boards Constituted.	Boards in Existence.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations	Awards or Determinations in Force†	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st Dec., 1913	505	501	484	387||	575§	401
30th April, 1914	525	509	492	422||	575	415
30th June, 1914	537	523	504	457||	584	429
30th Sept., 1914	549	539	517	474	599	409
31st Dec., 1914	553	544	522	478	576†	369
31st March, 1915	560	551	526	486	589†	371
30th June, 1915	568	557	532	495	638	481
30th Sept., 1915	582	570	536	495	644	498
31st Dec., 1915	573¶	554¶	546	498	663	546
31st March, 1916	580	558	542	495	651	553
30th June, 1916	589	571	555	512	678	581
30th Sept., 1916	591	573	557	519	683	596
31st Dec., 1916	594	572	554	525	706	609
31st March, 1917	475**	470**	470**	529	722	666
30th June, 1917	476	471	471	530	714	663
30th Sept., 1917	478	473	473	441††	734	666
31st Dec., 1917	478	473	473	442	744	732

* Details for each quarter have already been published in Labour Bulletins, and in Labour Reports Nos. 5 to 7.

† Including awards made by Arbitration Courts.

‡ Owing to certain restrictions being imposed on the operations of Industrial Boards in each State, a number of awards which expired in New South Wales during these periods were not immediately reviewed.

§ Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

|| Owing to a number of Awards made under the N.S.W. Industrial Disputes Act (1908) being still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act (1912) had not made any awards.

¶ See remarks with respect to re-authorisation of Boards in New South Wales, Labour Bulletin No. 12, p. 47.

** Reduction in the number of Boards authorised, constituted, and in existence is due to the dissolution of all Boards appointed under the Queensland Industrial Peace Act 1912.

†† Exclusive of Queensland Boards appointed under the Industrial Peace Act 1912. The work of these Boards is now undertaken by the Court of Arbitration constituted under the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1916.

It will be observed from the particulars set out in the above table that considerable expansion of the principle of the fixation of a legal minimum rate of wage and of working conditions took place during the four years ending 31st December, 1917. Including the operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts* and of the Western Australian Industrial Arbitration Court, 169 additional awards or determinations were in force at the end of 1917. The number of industrial agreements† made and in force under the various Acts increased during the four years under review by 331.

* The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-15, and the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Act 1911.

† The registration of Industrial agreements is not provided for under the Acts in force in Victoria and Tasmania, but such agreements may be registered and filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act to operate in any or in all States.

Boards Authorised and Constituted, Awards, Determinations and Agreements in Force at 31st December, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

Particulars.	At 31st Dec.	C'wth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
<i>Boards Authorised, etc.*</i>									
Boards authorised	1913	..	216†	135	75	56	..	23	505
	1914	..	230†	139	101	56	..	27	553
	1915	..	226	147	112§	56	..	32	573
	1916	..	234	147	122	57	..	34	594
	1917	..	237	149	2	57	..	33	478
Boards constituted	1913	..	223†	132†	74	51	..	21	501
	1914	..	238†	135†	94	51	..	26	544
	1915	..	226	142†	104	51	..	31	554
	1916	..	234	143†	111	51	..	33	572
	1917	..	237	147†	2§	55	..	32	473§
Boards which have made Awards or Determinations	1913	..	123	123	74	47	..	19	386
	1914	..	186	130	92	47	..	23	478
	1915	..	196	133	96	47	..	26	498
	1916	..	211	137	97	49	..	31	525
	1917	..	219	140	1§	50	..	32	442§
<i>Awards and Determinations—</i>	1913	17	265||	127	73	54	18	21	575
Awards and Determinations in force	1914	18	242	133	89	55	46	26	609
	1915	20	261	137	103	56	57	29	663
	1916	30	258	141	120	62	64	31	706
	1917	64	251	145	125	71	56	32	744
<i>State Awards and Determinations—</i>	1913	..	32	8	3	..	..	15	58
Applying to Whole State	1914	..	17	10	4	..	..	19	50
	1915	..	26	12	7	..	..	20	65
	1916	..	8	12	8	..	..	21	49
	1917	..	17	16	14	..	..	25	72
Applying to Metropolitan area	1913	..	58	..	28	53*	13	1	153
	1914	..	63	..	30	54	25	1	173
	1915	..	75	..	30	54	32	1	192
	1916	..	74	1	33	58	37	2	205
	1917	..	80	1	31	62	30	1	205
Applying to Metropolitan and Country areas	1913	..	49	105	1	..	..	1	161
	1914	..	41	109	12	..	..	6	173
	1915	..	38	111	17	..	..	8	181
	1916	..	49	114	20	..	..	8	198
	1917	..	89	118	26	2	5	6	246
Applying to Country areas	1913	..	126	14	41	1	4	..	186
	1914	..	121	14	43	1	16	..	195
	1915	..	122	14	49	2	18	..	205
	1916	..	127	14	59	4	20	..	224
	1917	..	65	10	54	7	21	..	157
<i>Commonwealth Awards</i>	1913	..	13	17	15	16	9	13	..
Awards in force in each State	1914	..	16	17	15	15	8	12	..
	1915	..	17	19	15	16	10	14	..
	1916	..	25	25	18	22	13	18	..
	1917	..	41	41	30	37	25	34	..
<i>Industrial Agreements</i>	1913	228	75	..	5	11	82	..	401
In force	1914	179	78	..	10	17	85	..	369
	1915	361	73	..	15	16	83	..	548
	1916	374	85	..	49	18	83	..	669
	1917	465	82	..	75	18	92	..	732
C'wealth Agreements in force in each State	1913	..	132	129	68	62	57	61	..
	1914	..	96	76	28	34	29	30	..
	1915	..	119	229	29	36	30	33	..
	1916	..	125	236	32	40	37	39	..
	1917	..	137	281	43	50	36	37	..
Number of Persons working under State Awards and Determinations (estimated)	1917	..	260,000	150,000	90,000	25,000	32,000	12,000	569,000

* The figures for New South Wales are exclusive of demarcation boards.

† Including boards which were subsequently dissolved, owing to alteration in the sectional arrangement of industries and callings.

‡ Including one board subsequently superseded by three boards.

§ In pursuance of the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1916, all Industrial Boards appointed under the Industrial Peace Act of 1912 were dissolved on the 12th January, 1917, with the exception of these Boards which had matters pending or partly heard. At the 31st December, 1917, these Boards had also been dissolved. The work of the Boards appointed under the old Act is being undertaken by a Court of Arbitration constituted under the new Act.

|| Omitting a number of awards which expired on the 31st December, 1913.

From the particulars set out in the above table, ready comparison can be made with respect to the progress in each of the States during the years 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917, as to the number of Boards operating, and the number of Awards, Determinations, and Industrial Agreements in force at the end of each annual period.

Information as to the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout the Commonwealth was given in Labour Bulletin No. 1. In later issues brief reviews have also been furnished respecting new legislation of an industrial character, as well as information respecting noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. In this report, brief particulars regarding special pronouncements by Industrial Courts during the year 1917 are given. It is proposed, however, to embody in a future publication a special section dealing at greater length with the various awards and judgments. Special attention will be given to decisions relating to cost of living, minimum wage, equal pay for the sexes, preference to unionists, strikes and lock-outs, and other matters of industrial interest.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—In this State Industrial Boards made 66 awards during the year, while 42 new awards were made by the Industrial Court. Variations and amendments of existing awards, numbering 168, were made by the Industrial Court and Boards during the twelve months. The number of Industrial Boards in existence at the end of the year was 237. Awards and industrial agreements in force at that date numbered 251 and 82 respectively. The difference between the number of Boards which had made awards and the number of awards in force is due to certain Boards making separate awards for the same industry, but operative in different areas, or separate awards for branches of the same industry.

The work of the Arbitration Court in this State having increased, it was considered necessary to appoint two additional judges, and such appointments were made during February in accordance with the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1916.

During the month of April the Western Colliery District Conciliation Committee was re-constituted for the purpose of dealing with industrial disputes which occur within the district.

The Workmen's Compensation Act 1916 came into operation on the 1st July, 1917.

The industrial dispute which originated at the Government Railway Workshops in August was the cause of emergency legislation being enacted, regarding the control of the coal mines and also of gas and electricity. The Acts which were brought into operation were the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1917 and the Electric Lighting and Gas Emergency Act 1917. The latter act was passed to provide for the control of the supply, consumption and use of electricity and gas, and also to relieve the various producers of these utilities from the obligations imposed upon them by the statutes under which they operated. The restrictions placed upon the community in regard to the using of coal, gas and electricity are referred to in more detail in Section XII. of this Report.

The registration as industrial unions under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 of over twenty unions was ordered to be cancelled, owing to such unions having participated in the industrial upheaval caused by the introduction of the "card system" into the railway workshops.

The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, No. 16, 1918, was assented to on the 22nd March, 1918. This Act amends the law for the regulation of the conditions of industries and industrial arbitration; to provide for the establishment of a Board of Trade; to provide for the better organisation of the labour market; to modify the provisions for the repression of lock-outs and strikes; to establish special and deputy Courts of Industrial Arbitration; to provide for secret compulsory ballots in certain cases; to enlarge the powers of trade unions, and to extend the rights and responsibilities of their members; to amend the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1916, the Trade Union Act 1881, the Apprentices Act 1901, and the Apprentices (Amendment) Act 1915, and certain other Acts; and for purposes consequent thereon or incidental thereto.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—In this State Wages Boards were authorised and constituted for *Hospital Attendants*, and employees in *Dispensaries* and *Chemists' Shops* during the year. The scope of the *Dressmakers' Board* was extended. The name of the *Milliners' Board* was altered to *Headwear Board*, and the powers of the Board were extended to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any persons employed in the trade of—(a) making males or females' hats, caps or bonnets; (b) trimming females' hats, caps or bonnets; provided that persons subject to the *Felt Hatters' Board*, or the *Knitters' Board* and persons making machine-made straw hats shall not be subject to the *Headwear Board*.

The *Hospital Attendants'*, the *Tilelayers'* and the *Stationery Boards* issued their first determinations during the year.

The Court of Industrial Appeals was constituted during the period under review to hear appeals against the determinations of the *Commercial Clerks*, *Quarrymen's*, *Stonecutters*, *Hotel Employees*, and *Under-clothing Boards*, and also to deal with appeals against the order and determination of the Court fixing the wages of confectioners.

After an exhaustive enquiry the Railways Classification Board, which was appointed during March 1917 to consider the claims of the railway employees for increased rates of wage, submitted their report to the Commissioners. Their recommendations were forwarded to the Government, but, owing to the large amount of money involved, payment of the increased rates of wage was deferred, and at the date of this report, the matter of paying part or whole of the increases was under consideration by the Cabinet. The total amount of increased expenditure, should the recommendations of the Board be adopted, is estimated to amount to approximately £180,000, while about 18,000 employees will receive increased rates of pay.

The total number of determinations in force in this State at the end of the year 1917 was 145, of which number 65 were made during the year. The State Act makes no provision for the filing of industrial

agreements. The number of Wages Boards constituted is 147, while the number which have made determinations is 140. The Furniture Board has made five distinct determinations for separate branches of the industry.

(iii.) *Queensland.*—The number of awards which were made during the year in this State was 63, while the number of industrial agreements filed under the provisions of the State Industrial Act was 42. The two industrial Boards constituted under the Industrial Peace Act 1912, and which had not been dissolved at the beginning of the year 1917, completed their work, and were accordingly dissolved. Only two industrial Boards have been constituted under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1916. The Industrial Court is now practically undertaking the work previously performed by Industrial Boards. In a number of instances during the year the terms of industrial agreements have been made "Common Rules" throughout the localities for which the agreements were made.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 came into operation on the 12th January, 1917. The main provisions of this Act were set forth in Labour Report No. 7, p. 446. Under Part VII. of the Act employees in the State railways, police, and other Government departments were brought under the Act. Awards, granting increased rates of pay to Government railway employees, have already been made by the Court, and industrial agreements, filed under the provisions of the Act, have been made on behalf of the Public Service General Officers' Association and the Queensland Teachers' Union.

After a strike of the employees of the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Co., owing to the employment of non-unionists, the Arbitration Court awarded absolute preference of employment to members of the Australian Workers' Union, or of other unions recognised by it. By a Full Arbitration Court judgment on a reference to the Court of an industrial matter by the Federated Storemen's and Packers' Union, it was decided that the Court has general power under the provisions of The Industrial Arbitration Act 1916, to order or award preference of unionists.

In December, after hearing a claim by the Queensland Branch of the Printing Industry Employees' Union for preference to unionists in Brisbane Newspaper Printing Offices, the President of the Industrial Court decided that preference should not be granted.

Early in November, a Bill to amend the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916, passed its third reading in the Legislative Council of this State.

The Bill provides that there shall be no preference to unionists or non-unionists, and that all subsisting awards or orders made under the principal Act awarding preference to unionists are, to the extent to which they award such preference, rescinded. The Bill was forwarded to the Legislative Assembly.

During the twelve months under review, the Arbitration Court in this State was very active, and many interesting judgments and awards were gazetted, dealing with the cost of living, preference to unionists, equal pay for the sexes, the minimum wage and other cognate matters. The decisions regarding these subjects will be included in a special section which will appear in a future publication.

(iv.) *South Australia.*—The number of awards and determinations made by the Industrial Court and Wages Boards in this State during the year 1917 was 39, and three industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the State Act during the same period. Awards in respect to chemists' assistants at Adelaide, moulders at Crystal Brook, employees of wine and spirit merchants and wine-growers, and employees in chaff mills, came into force for the first time during the period under review.

In June, the President of the Industrial Court, when delivering judgment in the first case brought before him under section 39 of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, against an employee of the Australian Glass Manufacturers' Company Limited for unlawfully doing an act in the nature of a strike, gave utterance to some interesting remarks regarding the industrial law of the State, and also in regard to lock-outs and strikes considered in relation to various classes of the community, and to the common good.

In giving judgment in the matter of an appeal against the determination of the Wages Board for Carpenters and Joiners, the President dealt exhaustively with the question of the fixation of rates of wage, the cost of living, restrictions on employers in the conduct of their business and other matters relating to the work of the Industrial Court. The above judgments are too lengthy to be detailed in this report, but are mentioned to direct attention to the special features contained therein.

(v.) *Western Australia.*—In this State the Industrial Arbitration Court issued 4 awards during the year. Twenty-eight industrial agreements were filed during the same period. The number of awards in force at the 31st December, 1917, was 56, while at the same date 92 industrial agreements, filed under the provisions of the State Act, were in force.

(vi.) *Tasmania.*—Seven determinations were made by Wages Boards in this State during the year 1917. There is no provision in the State Act for the filing of industrial agreements. Thirty-two determinations were in force at the end of the year.

An Act entitled The Factories Act 1917 was assented to on the 22nd November, 1917. This Act further amends the principal Act, The Factories Act 1910, and every amendment thereof.

An Act to amend the Wages Boards Act 1910 was enacted on the 23rd February, 1917.

Section 4 of the principal Act was amended by extending the meaning of the term "apprentice" by adding the words, "or any person who, unable by reason of his age to complete his term of apprenticeship before reaching the age of twenty-one years, had obtained a license from the Minister to be indentured."

Section 5 (*Appointment of Wages Boards*) was amended by the addition of provisions regarding the dissolution of Boards, the period of office for which members of Boards were appointed, and the appointment by the Governor of new Boards to take the place of Boards which have been dissolved.

Section 9 (Constitution of Board) was amended in so far as the qualifications of representatives of employers and employees appointed on Boards were concerned.

Section 14 (Appointment of Chairman) was repealed and re-enacted. Provision was made amongst others that the Chairman of every Board shall be appointed by the Governor by proclamation, and shall be a person holding the office of Police Magistrate. The same person may be appointed Chairman of any number of Boards.

Section 20 (Objects and Duties of Boards) was amended and added to. Special clauses regarding the limitation of apprentices were inserted.

Other sections which were either repealed, amended or added to were :—*Sections 22 (Principles of Determination by Boards)*; *23 (Special Provisions for Apprentices)*; *30 (Duration and Publication of Determinations)*; *43 (Penalty for not paying Wages fixed)*. Sections 44, 56, 57, 62 and 64 were also amended.

(vii.) *Commonwealth Arbitration Acts*.—During the twelve months under review the number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act and the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Act, was 33. Industrial agreements to the number of 135 were filed during the same period. At the 31st December, 1917, the number of awards in force under the above-mentioned Acts, was 64, while the terms and conditions of 465 industrial agreements regarding rates of wage and working conditions were in operation.

The awards made by the Court during the year under the provisions of the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Act cover employees engaged as telephonists, post and telegraph officers, assistants in the public service, and masters and marine engineers on Government vessels. Under the provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act an important award which was made during the year gave substantial increases to shearers, and also prescribed rates of pay and working conditions for station hands, who were covered by award for the first time. Awards regulating the rates of wage, etc., of seamen, journalists, theatrical employees and tanners in all States came into force during the year. Other awards which were made during the twelve months covered employees engaged in gas works, glass bottle making, flour-milling, engine-driving, carting and driving and mining, while the wages of builders' labourers and storemen and packers were also regulated. Carpenters, engineers, builders' labourers, waterside workers, employees in the pastoral industry, clerks, and masters and marine engineers employed in the Northern Territory were brought under award during the twelve months under review.

The occupations of employees on whose behalf industrial agreements were filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Act during the twelve months comprised, amongst others, the following :—Storemen and packers, saddlers, smelters, hairdressers, tramway employees, clothing trade employees in the Defence Department, engine-drivers, radio-telegraphists, masters and engineers, journalists, mining employees, manufacturing grocers, pastrycooks and builders' labourers.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court was busily engaged during the year, and in addition to issuing new awards, made many variations in awards which were already in force. Amongst the awards which were varied during the twelve months were those which covered telephone construction and maintenance men, miners in Victoria, hotel employees and carpenters in Northern Territory, waterside workers, felt hatters, employees in the Commonwealth Public Service, theatrical employees, manure and chemical trade employees, engine-drivers, and mining and pastoral employees.

During the year 1917 a number of interesting awards and judgments were delivered in the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. These dealt exhaustively with the cost of living; the purchasing-power of money; the basic wage; the question of the payment of different rates of wage to single and married men; the deduction from wages for sustenance and keep; preference of employment; the settlement of different rates of wage for the different States and localities, together with other questions of much industrial and economic interest. As mentioned in a previous paragraph in this section, it is proposed to deal with these various questions at greater length in a special section to be included in a future publication.

(viii.) *The War Precautions Coal Board*, appointed in November, 1916, to regulate the wages and working conditions of employees in the coal-mining industry, issued a number of orders during the year 1917. *Order No. 4* dealt with matters concerning the Muswellbrook, Curlewis, Gunnedah and Rosedale Collieries in New South Wales; *Order No. 5* regulated certain working conditions at the South Clifton and South Clifton New Tunnel Collieries; *Order No. 6* provided for the price to be charged for gas by certain gas companies in Sydney; *Order No. 7* provided for an increase in the price of refined oils supplied by John Fell and Company, Newnes and Sydney; *Order No. 8* agreed to the terms of an agreement regarding working conditions between the Australasian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation and the proprietors of the Rosedale, Muswellbrook, Curlewis & Gunnedah Coal Mines; *Order No. 9* dealt with the price to be charged for refined oils supplied by John Fell & Company, Newnes and Sydney; *Order No. 10*, issued on the 28th March, regulated the wages and working conditions of coal miners in Western Australia. A clause in this Order provided that the terms and conditions set out in the Order should be registered as an industrial agreement in the Arbitration Court of Western Australia, so that the compliance with the said terms and conditions might be enforced by that Court; *Order No. 11* requires the proprietors of certain Queensland collieries to submit records, books and other documents for examination; *Order No. 12* slightly varies an agreement made in 1912 relating to the Bellbird Colliery; *Order No. 13* increases the price of pig iron and steel made by the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Ltd. and G. and C. Hoskins Ltd.; *Orders Nos. 14 and 15* regulate wages and working conditions of cokeworkers in the employ of the above companies; *Order No. 16* prescribes certain rates of remuneration and other conditions at Stockton Borehole Colliery; *Order No. 17* provides for a resumption of work at the Richmond Main Colliery, and provides for certain sections in the mine similar rates and conditions as are contained in the Pelaw Main award; *Order No. 18* prescribes certain rates of remuneration

and other conditions for different classes of labour (engine-drivers, winchmen, firemen, trimmers, motor attendants and others) employed in or about the coal and shale mines in New South Wales, except in the case of John Fell & Co.; *Order No. 19* provides that McPherson Proprietary Limited may increase the price to be charged to their customers for pig-iron by a sum equivalent to the increase imposed by virtue of Order No. 13 of the Coal Mining Board by G. and C. Hoskins Limited upon the said McPherson Proprietary Limited; *Order No. 20*, issued on the 28th September, 1917, regulated the wages and working conditions of coal miners and others employed in or about coal mines in Queensland.

Owing to the employees in the coal mining industry becoming involved in the industrial dispute which originated at the Government Railway Workshops in New South Wales during the month of August, the operations of the War Precautions Board were suspended.

SECTION XI.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGE.

1. General.—The collection of information regarding changes in rates of wage throughout the Commonwealth dates from the 1st January, 1913, and the statistical results for the first complete year (1913) were published in Labour Report No. 5. The annual figures for the year 1914, together with complete figures for the year 1915, were published in Labour Report, No. 6, while particulars regarding changes in rates of wage during the year 1916 are given in detail in Labour Report No. 7. Details relating to all changes in rates of wage recorded for each quarter of the years 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and the first two quarters of the year 1917 were published in Labour Bulletins Nos. 5 to 18 respectively. The annual figures for the year 1917 are given in the following tables.

(i.) *Definition of a Change in Rate of Wage.*—For the purpose of these statistics a change in rate of wage is defined as a change in the weekly rates of remuneration of a certain class of employees, apart from any change in the nature of the work performed or apart from any revision of rates due to increased length of service or experience. It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as (a) changes in rates of pay due to promotion, progressive increments, or, on the other hand, to reduction in pay or grade to inefficient workers, and (b) changes in average earnings in an occupation due to a change in the proportions which higher paid classes of workers bear to lower paid classes. Bonuses to employees have not been taken into account in the tabulations. Each single change recorded relates to a change in the rates of wage effected in a specific industry or calling, and includes any and all changes to workers in that industry, irrespective of the different number of separate occupations or trades affected. Further, it should be observed that in some instances a change may relate to the employees of a single employer or to those of a number of employers, according to the instrument or method operating to bring about the change. In a few instances a number of separate instruments, all of which have not necessarily affected rates of wage, but all of which relate

to a specific industry or craft, are grouped and taken as a single change. This course is adopted in order to obviate a multiplicity of changes affecting only a small number of workers in each instance.

(ii.). *Sources of Information*.—Primary information merely as to the fact that a change in rate of wage has occurred is obtained through the following channels :—(a) The Commonwealth and State Industrial Registrars and the Chief Inspector of Factories in each State ; (b) Reports from Labour Agents and Correspondents ; (c) Quarterly reports from Secretaries of Trade Unions ; (d) Returns relating to industrial disputes which resulted in changes in rates of wage ; (e) Reports in newspapers, labour and trade reviews, and other publications.

(iii.). *Collection of Particulars concerning Changes*.—On the occurrence of a change in rate of wage, forms* (prescribed under the Census and Statistics Act 1905) are issued to employers' associations (if any) and also to the secretaries of the trade unions, the members of which are affected by the change. In certain cases forms are also issued, if necessary, to individual employers. The particulars which have to be inserted in these forms furnish information regarding the occupations of the workers affected, the number of workers in each occupation, the rates of wage paid before and after the change, the locality affected, and the date on which the change took effect. Information must also be furnished regarding employers and employers' associations concerned, if any, and the method by which the change was effected.

When the forms are returned from the various persons who are required to fill them in, the returns are checked and compared with each other and with copies of awards, determinations, and agreements. In all cases when the information furnished on the forms is incomplete or unsatisfactory further inquiries are made, and the figures checked by reference to Census results, industrial statistics, factory reports, etc.

(iv.).—*Summary of Particulars Tabulated*.—The particulars thus obtained are summarised under the following headings :—(a) Number of workpeople affected ; (b) the total net amount of increase† in the weekly wage distribution ; (c) the consequential average increase per week to each of the workpeople affected ; (d) the method by which the change was brought about ; and (e) if effected with or without a stoppage of work. As regards the number of persons affected, the particulars summarised refer to the total number of persons ordinarily engaged in the specific industry or calling. As to the total net amount of increase in wages this is computed for a full week's work for all persons ordinarily engaged in the specific industry or calling, and includes particulars of any decreases effected. In cases of changes in the minimum rates of wage payable under awards or determinations of industrial tribunals, it has ordinarily been assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the workers in each designated occupation received the minimum rates of wage before and after the change.

It should be clearly understood that the computations (amount of increase per week) do not relate to the increase each week, but only to the increase in a single week on the assumption that the full number of persons ordinarily engaged in the particular trade or occupation affected by

* As these forms are issued under the authority of the Census and Statistics Act 1905, it is compulsory upon prescribed persons to furnish the information required.

† After making allowance for any decreases involved.

the change is employed during that week. It is obvious, therefore, that the aggregate effect per annum cannot be obtained without making due allowance for unemployment and for occupations in which employment is seasonal or intermittent. It is also obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid *per annum* can be made, until the determining factors have been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment, and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries.

Further, it may be pointed out that the aggregate of the particulars given in the Labour Bulletins relating to each of the four quarters of any year, will not necessarily agree with those given in the annual figures published for that particular year. This is due to the inclusion, as far as possible, in the annual figures of particulars of all changes effected within the year. In some instances the advice of a change is not received in time to allow the full particulars relating thereto being collected and included in the quarterly figures.

2. Numbers and Effect of Changes in each State for 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1917.—The following table gives particulars relating to all changes in rates of wage, recorded for each State, Territory, and the Commonwealth during the years specified. It should be observed that changes brought about by awards and agreements under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-15 are necessarily included hereunder as changes in each State to which such awards and agreements apply. The total net amount of increase per week, set out, is subject to the qualifications mentioned in the fourth paragraph of the preceding sub-section. The average increase per head per week is computed to the nearest penny.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Number and Effect of Changes in each State and Territory, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	F.C.T.	C'wealth
No. of Changes	1913 149	81	41	26	20	12	..	..	329
	1914 185	69	50	18	42	19	..	..	384*
	1915 169	87	60	31	25	24	3	..	401†
	1916 377	168	134	98	42	37	4	4	870‡
	1917 201	106	142	78	55	38	16	..	637§
No. of Persons Affected	1913 89,618	49,254	16,645	4,574	3,036	3,005	..	..	166,132
	1914 56,469	29,876	20,198	5,624	8,399	4,262	..	..	125,218*
	1915 109,260	30,087	22,864	10,206	2,661	3,147	185	..	197,410†
	1916 242,564	119,878	72,079	40,925	5,848	7,232	258	157	492,487‡
	1917 101,158	68,272	72,843	20,809	12,997	5,288	1,143	..	292,910§
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Net Amount of Increase per Week	1913 21,789	9,880	3,702	1,279	428	635	..	..	37,713
	1914 13,558	6,688	5,128	1,941	2,423	804	..	..	30,685*
	1915 29,525	8,078	6,398	3,539	562	778	87	..	51,905†
	1916 56,835	30,566	40,451	9,930	1,440	1,980	88	40	142,923‡
	1917 28,896	15,129	20,083	6,070	3,407	1,987	635	..	81,007§
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Average Increase per Head per Week	1913 4 10	4 0	4 5	5 7	2 10	4 3	..	..	4 6
	1914 4 10	4 6	5 1	6 11	5 9	3 9	..	..	4 11*
	1915 5 5	4 2	5 7	6 11	4 3	4 11	9 5	..	5 3†
	1916 4 8	5 1	11 3	4 10	4 11	5 6	6 10	5 1	5 10‡
	1917 5 9	4 5	5 6	6 0	5 3	7 6	11 1	..	5 6§

* Including one change (common to all States) of £143 per week to 390 workpeople, brought about by agreement made pursuant to Section 24 of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. † Including two changes (common to all States) which resulted in an increase in wages of £2938 per week to 10,000 workpeople. ‡ Including six changes (common to all States), which resulted in an increase in wages of £1593 per week to 3546 workpeople. § Including one change (common to all States) which resulted in an increase in wages of £4800 per week to 11,000 workpeople. The particulars relating to the numbers of workpeople who were affected by these changes, and the net amount of increase per week in each State were not ascertainable.

In point of number of changes in each State, New South Wales has been first, Victoria second, and Queensland third, in each of the years specified, with the exception that, during the year 1917, the number of changes in Queensland exceeded the number recorded in Victoria. Some little variation has occurred in the position of the remaining States. The relative position of the States in point of the numbers of workers affected in each year is, of course, largely due to the magnitude of the different industries and callings in which changes took place.

Included in the particulars contained in the foregoing table are those relating to five decreases during the year 1914, seven during the year 1915, eight during the year 1916, and eleven during the year 1917. The States in which these decreases were recorded were in 1914, New South Wales three, Victoria one, and Tasmania one, affecting 272 persons in all, and a decrease of £59 per week; in 1915 New South Wales two, Tasmania two, and in Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia one each, affecting in all 494 workers to the extent of a decrease of £81 per week. Of the eight decreases recorded during 1916 in rates of wage, six affected workpeople in New South Wales, one in Victoria and one in Western Australia. The total number of persons affected was 1730, and the amount of decrease per week was £286. In 1917 eleven decreases, affecting 12,828 workpeople, were recorded. Seven of these decreases occurred in New South Wales, two in Queensland, and one each in Victoria and South Australia. The total amount of decrease per week was £3267.

The number of changes in rates of wage, the number of workpeople affected and the net amount of increase per week recorded throughout the Commonwealth during the year 1917, were considerably lower than those recorded for the previous year. The figures for the year 1917, however, were higher than those for the years prior to 1916. The total number of changes during the period under review was 637 as compared with 870 during the previous twelve months. The workpeople affected during these periods were 292,910 and 492,487 respectively, and the net amounts of increase per week were £81,007 and £142,923. The average increase per head per week did not show a marked difference; the average during the year 1917 being 5s. 6d., and during the year 1916, 5s. 10d.

3. Number and Effect of Changes in Rates of Wage in each State Classified according to Industrial Groups, 1917.—In the following table particulars are given as to the number and effect of changes in rates of wage in 1917, in each State, classified according to the fourteen industrial groups adopted by this Bureau for the classification of current rates of wage, industrial disputes, etc. Particulars concerning changes in rates of wage during the years 1913, 1914 and 1915, classified according to industrial groups, were published in Labour Report No. 6, pp. 88-91, and similar particulars for the year 1916, were given in Labour Report No. 7, pp. 452-3.

Changes in Rates of Wage, Number and Effect of Changes in each State and Territory, classified according to Industrial Groups, 1917.

Particulars.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.															
	I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc.	II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc.	IX. Rail and Tramway Services.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.	XII. Pastoral, etc.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous.	COMMONWEALTH.	
New South Wales—																
Number of Changes ..	3	15	14	7	15	28	13	15	18	7	7	3	5	51	201	
Number of Persons affected ..	4,590	2,229	2,096	9,910	2,824	4,091	5,650	15,374	7,644	1,090	498	540	8,317	36,305	101,158	
Amount of Increase per week £	1,155	564	431	1,863	936	1,423	1,732	8,716	1,100	147	296	(*18)	1,289	9,262	28,896	
Victoria—																
Number of Changes ..	3	15	15	5	6	10	2	3	7	4	2	2	3	29	106	
Number of Persons affected ..	2,180	11,115	5,236	10,090	997	6,170	200	1,590	2,559	3,858	489	680	5,050	18,058	68,272	
Amount of Increase per week £	394	1,933	858	2,562	252	1,702	59	826	241	1,116	113	140	1,315	3,618	15,129	
Queensland—																
Number of Changes ..	3	17	24	5	4	8	10	6	6	4	7	..	2	46	142	
Number of Persons affected ..	865	2,216	20,239	3,637	1,325	1,170	3,980	4,643	15,858	1,831	384	186	1,790	14,905	72,843	
Amount of Increase per week £	285	487	129	1,124	488	455	1,023	1,917	8,374	507	..	..	1,025	4,083	20,083
South Australia—																
Number of Changes ..	1	9	10	4	1	8	4	1	5	4	2	2	4	23	78	
Number of Persons affected ..	130	1,061	2,059	2,015	700	780	640	1,833	5,130	2,332	96	95	187	3,151	20,209	
Amount of Increase per week £	19	340	378	555	145	338	220	1,550	1,702	684	130	39	87	883	6,070	
Western Australia—																
Number of Changes ..	3	3	4	..	4	5	2	5	8	1	1	2	..	17	55	
Number of Persons affected ..	1,780	361	545	..	240	223	200	660	5,634	600	17	1,800	..	937	12,997	
Amount of Increase per week £	315	66	125	..	64	68	90	265	1,146	220	3	715	..	330	3,407	
Tasmania—																
Number of Changes ..	1	..	2	..	1	3	2	5	4	1	..	..	1	18	38
Number of Persons affected ..	950	..	340	..	300	151	320	922	241	550	..	..	15	1,499	5,288
Amount of Increase per week £	400	..	94	..	96	60	120	270	85	380	..	..	4	478	1,987
Northern Territory—																
Number of Changes ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	2	16
Number of Persons affected	12	436	..	198	..	129	325	..	43	1,143
Amount of Increase per week £	..	4	233	..	63	..	101	220	..	14	635
Commonwealth—																
Number of Changes ..	..	60	66	21	31	553	38	28	50	19	125	10	15	144	1,574
Number of Persons affected ..	10,495	16,994	30,515	25,652	6,386	12,585	11,426	25,022	37,264	10,261	12,613	3,440	15,359	74,898	292,910	
Amount of Increase per week £	2,568	3,394	2,015	6,104	1,981	4,046	3,477	12,544	12,711	3,054	5,629	1,096	3,720	18,668	81,007	

* Decrease. † Including one change effected by an Industrial Agreement under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the particulars of which, in respect to the numbers affected in each State, are not ascertainable. ‡ Including particulars of changes which involved a decrease in rates of wage. § See paragraph on page 109.

It should be observed that industrial awards and agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Arbitration and Conciliation Act, which extend in their operation to more than one State, are counted as a change in each State affected. This is necessary in order that the total number of changes in each State may be obtained. The particulars for the whole Commonwealth, however, record each award and agreement once only. For example, an award affecting a section of the Commonwealth Public Service is operative in each State, and is accordingly included in the State table as a change in each State, but in the total for the Commonwealth the award is recorded as one change only. The totals of the changes recorded as operating in each State are, therefore, in some cases in excess of the totals given for the Commonwealth. On the other hand an award affecting the Interstate Marine Merchant Service (Seamen and others), where the persons affected are not working solely in any one State, the award is not recorded as a change operating in each State, but is added to the number of changes for all States.

Of the 574 changes recorded during the year 1917, no less than 144 affected workpeople engaged in occupations and industries classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous). The principal changes, according to the number of workpeople affected, included in this group were those which affected senior assistants in Commonwealth Public Service, letter carriers, telephonists, theatrical employees, musicians, journalists and storemen and packers in Defence Department stores in all States ; shop assistants, engine-drivers, municipal and shire council employees, clerks and office assistants, fire brigade employees, water supply and sewerage workers, surveyors' employees, and storemen and packers in New South Wales ; shop assistants, storemen and packers, engine-drivers, fuel and fodder employees, commercial clerks and sewerage and waterworks labourers in Victoria ; shop assistants, municipal employees, warehouse workers, fire brigade employees, school teachers, clerks, typists and others in the employ of the State Government and Savings Bank, State School caretakers, storemen and packers in wool, hide and oil warehouses, and engine-drivers in Queensland ; shop assistants, employees of the Supply and Tender Board, engine-drivers, municipal employees and storemen and packers in South Australia ; fire brigade employees, engine-drivers and firemen, and shop assistants in Western Australia ; and school teachers, police, municipal employees and engine-drivers in Tasmania.

Railway employees in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory received increases in wages during the year. The rates of wage for tramway employees and carters and drivers in all States were reviewed during the twelve months. In the manufacturing industries the principal changes affected workpeople following the undermentioned occupations :—In New South Wales, timber workers, ironmoulders, blast furnace workers, electroplaters, farriers, agricultural implement makers, ham and bacon curers, butter, biscuit, sugar, vinegar and sauce makers, pastrycooks, millers, tailors, tailoresses, dressmakers, printers, glass-founders, coke workers, coachmakers, gas workers, brick-makers, broommakers, soap and candle makers, jewellers, tanners, small arms and ammunition makers and rubber workers. In Victoria, wood-workers, coopers, ironmoulders, ovenmakers, nailmakers, engineers, brassworkers, electricians, farriers, electroplaters, agricultural implement makers, boilermakers, cycle and motor builders, bakers, biscuit makers,

pastrycooks, jammakers, meat preservers, millers, teapackers, cold storage employees, woollen mill employees, dressmakers, waterproof clothing makers, underclothing makers, employees at the Government Printing Office, glassfounders, coachmakers, gasmeter makers, rubber-workers, fellmongers and tanners ; in Queensland, furniture makers, coopers, engineers, boilermakers, ironworkers and assistants, electrical engineers, tinsmiths, confectioners, millers, ham and bacon curers, meat-works employees, bakers, pastrycooks, biscuit makers, sugarmill workers, woollen mill employees, tailors and tailoresses, shirt, collar and pyjama makers, printers, bookbinders, coachmakers, gasworkers, brick and pottery makers, fellmongers and tanners ; in South Australia, timber workers, iron and steel moulders, boilermakers, blacksmiths, agricultural implement makers, electrical workers, fruit preservers, millers, salt workers, slaughtermen, tailors and tailoresses, shirtmakers, white-workers, milliners, dressmakers, printers, bookbinders, glassfounders, gasworkers, brushmakers, jewellers and tanners ; in West Australia, timber and sawmill workers, furniture makers, engineers, brewery employees, wine and spirit employees, printers, bookbinders, shipwrights, lime operatives, tanners and superphosphate and chemical workers ; in Tasmania, timber and sawmill workers, brewery employees, bakers, pastrycooks, printers, bookbinders, leather workers, tanners and gas-workers.

Other important changes during the year gave increased rates of wages to plumbers and gasfitters, bricklayers, plasterers and other building employees, metalliferous miners, colliery employees, Sulphide Corporation employees, dredge miners, sugarcane cutters, wheat baggers, hairdressers, and restaurant and hotel employees in New South Wales ; gardeners and nurserymen, Harbour Trust employees, hotel employees, office cleaners, night watchmen, lift attendants, coal miners, quarrymen, motor drivers, slaters and tilers and tuckpointers in Victoria ; carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, plumbers, coal miners, metalliferous miners, quarrymen, coal lumpers and lightermen, marine engineers and restaurant employees in Queensland ; miners, wheat stackers, hairdressers, restaurant employees, plasterers, masons and bricklayers in South Australia ; employees in coal and metalliferous mines, shearers, wool pressers, cooks, builders' labourers and painters in West Australia ; coal and metalliferous miners and hairdressers in Tasmania, and railway employees, wharf labourers, seamen, marine engineers, carpenters, and joiners, builders' labourers, plasterers, bricklayers, station hands, clerical workers and shop assistants in the Northern Territory. One change, common to all States, affecting the rates of wage for seamen and others employed on vessels engaged in Interstate trade came into force during the twelve months under review.

4. Changes in Rates of Wage in Female Occupations. Number and Effect of Changes in each State, 1913-1917.—Included in the changes in rates of wage recorded in the tables on pages 106 to 115, are those which in the whole or part thereof affected female occupations. Particulars in respect to these changes in so far as they relate to the numbers of female workers affected, etc., are set out hereunder.

(i.) *Changes in Rates of Wage according to States.*—In the following table particulars are given of the effect of changes in rates of wage to female workers, as recorded for each State during the years 1913 to 1917 inclusive:—

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Female Occupations.—Effect of Changes in each State, 1913-1917.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'WLTH.
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NUMBER OF PERSONS AFFECTED.

1913	..	6,148	4,562	550	958	..	1,480	13,698
1914	..	7,696	4,232	570	..	783	30	13,311
1915	..	11,588	3,065	1,033	399	73	360	16,518
1916	..	16,915	20,211	3,954	*1,348	179	347	42,954
1917	..	18,557	20,136	9,777	3,365	209	529	52,573

NET AMOUNT OF INCREASE PER WEEK.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1913	..	1,107	563	55	152	..	123	2,000
1914	..	1,400	542	73	..	266	7	2,288
1915	..	2,550	506	148	108	17	48	3,377
1916	..	3,480	3,689	577	*162	26	43	7,977
1917	..	3,123	4,049	2,977	826	78	109	11,162

AVERAGE INCREASE PER HEAD PER WEEK.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1913	..	3 7	2 6	2 0	3 2	..	1 8	2 11
1914	..	3 8	2 7	2 7	..	6 9	4 8	3 5
1915	..	4 5	3 4	2 10	5 5	4 8	2 8	4 1
1916	..	4 1	3 8	2 11	2 5	2 11	2 6	3 9
1917	..	3 4	4 0	6 1	4 11	7 6	4 1	4 3

* Including effect of one change which affected 9 female employees in the Northern Territory.

It will be seen that the number of females affected by changes in rates of wage during the year 1917 is greatly in excess of the number recorded during any previous year.

The figures for Queensland and South Australia shew comparatively large increases. In Victoria the number of persons is slightly lower, while in the remaining States there are small increases. In all States, with the exception of New South Wales, the amounts shewing the net amount of increase per week and the average increase per head per week are higher than those for the year 1916. The average increase per head per week for all changes throughout the Commonwealth during the year 1917 was 4s. 3d. per week, which is higher than the average increase for any previous year.

(ii.) *Changes in Rates of Wage in Female Occupations according to Industrial Groups.*—The particulars set out in the immediately preceding table are further analysed and classified according to the industrial groups in which the changes took place in each State. Similar information for the years 1913, 1914 and 1915 was published in Labour Report No. 6, and for the year 1916 in Labour Report No. 7.

Changes in Rates of Wage.—Female Occupations in each State classified according to Industrial Groups, 1917.

PARTICULARS.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.											
	I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manu- facturing.	IX. Rail and Tram Services.	X. Other Land Transport.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Groups.	
New South Wales— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	219 36	8,810 1,556	..	326 53	106 19	50 (*40)	5,010 672	4,036 827	18,557 3,123			
Victoria— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	6 1	1,255 83	9,370 2,440	317 46	240 18	..	..	4,050 1,012	4,898 449	20,136 4,049	
Queensland— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	50 7	.. 143	540 837	3,025 87	385 ..	730 170	..	1,250 575	3,797 1,158	9,777 2,977		
South Australia— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	.. ..	.. 7	45 523	1,910 40	200 6	23 ..	..	..	..	1,187 250	3,365 826
Western Australia— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	20 4	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2	8 ..	..	..	181 72	209 78
Tasmania— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	60 12	10 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	459 96	529 109
Commonwealth— Number of Persons affected Amount of Increase per week £	70 11	6 1	2,059 2,269	23,115 5,356	962 185	599 78	844 191	50 (*40)	10,310 2,259	14,558 2,852	52,573 11,162	

* Decrease.

Of the total number of female employees (52,573) who were affected by changes in rates of wage during the year, 23,115 were engaged in the manufacture of clothing, hats, etc. (Group IV.); 14,558 in various occupations classified in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous); 10,310 were working in hotels, restaurants, etc. (Group XIII.); 2059 were engaged in the preparation or distribution of food and drink (Group III.), while 962 were employed in printing and bookbinding establishments (Group V.). In the other groups, with the exception of Groups VI. (Other Manufacturing), and IX. (Rail and Tram Services), the number who received increased wages during the year was comparatively small.

In New South Wales the occupations of the workpeople affected by changes in rates during the year 1917 comprised, amongst others, tailoresses, dressmakers, biscuit makers, pastrycooks, vinegar and sauce makers, rubber workers, railway rest house attendants, packers, theatrical employees, waitresses, hospital employees, hotel and restaurant employees, shop assistants, clerks, cashiers, office assistants and telephonists; in Victoria, jam makers, biscuit makers, tea packers, pastrycooks, employees in the Government Printing Office, bookbinders, folders, textile workers, dressmakers, underclothing makers, waterproof clothing makers, rubber workers, hotel employees, office cleaners, hospital employees, clerks, theatrical employees, packers, journalists and telephonists; in Queensland, meatworks employees, pastrycooks, biscuit makers,

conffectioners, textile workers, tailoresses, shirt and collar makers, bookbinders, printing employees, waitresses, cooks and others employed in restaurants, office cleaners, journalists, clerks, theatrical employees, school teachers, railway employees and telephonists; in South Australia, jam and preserve makers, shirtmakers, whiteworkers, tailoresses, dress-makers, milliners, wickerworkers, bookbinders, paint makers, shop assistants, journalists, theatrical employees and telephonists; in Western Australia, upholstresses, theatrical employees, shop assistants and telephonists; and in Tasmania, leather workers, bookbinders, school teachers, shop assistants, theatrical employees and telephonists.

5. Changes in Rates of Wage classified according to Methods by Effected, Commonwealth, and States, 1915-1917:—

(i.) *Changes in Rates of Wage and Methods by which effected, Commonwealth, 1915-1917.*—Comparative particulars are contained in the following table, of the total number and effect of all changes in rates of wage brought about throughout the Commonwealth during the years indicated, as a result of the application of one or other of the specified methods:—

Changes in Rates of Wage classified according to Methods by which Effected, Commonwealth, 1915-1917.

Methods by which Changes were Effected.	Number of Changes.			Number of Work-people Affected.			Total Net Amount of Increase per wk.		
	1915	1916	1917	1915	1916	1917	1915	1916	1917
By voluntary action of employers	21	51	24	17,727	55,560	9,531	3,941	10,831	3,097
By direct negotiations	63	175	75	11,593	46,633	15,827	2,872	12,114	5,429
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party	20	9	14	2,587	4,984	19,500	593	1,518	10,996
By award of Court under Commonwealth Act	9	17	35	16,386	40,978	20,759	4,317	14,965	7,654
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act	14	30	28	11,620	25,081	16,443	3,080	6,800	5,579
By award or determination under State Act	202	467	310	128,531	305,340	198,723	34,290	94,005	44,477
By agreement registered under State Act	36	72	88	8,966	13,911	12,127	2,812	2,690	3,775
Total*	365	821	574	197,410	492,487	292,910	51,905	142,923	81,007

* In this table an Industrial Award or Agreement under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act or an Order of the War Precautions Coal Board is counted as one change only, although such Award, Agreement or Order may be operative in more than one State. See also remarks on page 104 with respect to the inclusion of a number of Industrial Agreements filed under the provisions of the Commonwealth Act being recorded as a single change only.

The total number of changes recorded during the year 1917 was 574, of which 310, or 57 per cent. of the total number, were brought about by award or determination under State Industrial Act. The number of changes brought about by this method was considerably lower in 1917 than in 1916, but the percentage of the total for each year was 57 per cent. The number of awards made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration shews an increase compared with previous years. The number of changes brought about by direct negotiations between employers and employees is considerably lower than those settled by this method during the previous twelve months.

(ii.) *Changes in Rates of Wage and Methods by which Effected in each State and Territory, 1917.*—The following tables set out particulars of the results of all changes in rates of wage which were recorded for the year 1917, according to the method by which the changes were

effected. The particulars relating to changes effected with or without a stoppage of work are given separately, and include those involving any decrease in rates of wage. For comparative information for the year 1913, see Labour Report No. 5; for the years 1914 and 1915 see Labour Report No. 6; and for the year 1916 see Labour Report No. 7.

Changes in Rates of Wage—Methods by which Effected, 1917.

METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES WERE EFFECTED.	WITHOUT STOPPAGE OF WORK.			AFTER STOPPAGE OF WORK.			ALL CHANGES.		
	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of Increase per week.	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of Increase per week.	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of Increase per week.
New South Wales—									
By voluntary action of employers	5	581	282	..	1,197	367	5	581	282
By direct negotiations	9	735	297	8	..	..	17	1,932	664
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party	6	2,508	1,146	3	12,372	7,567	9	14,880	8,713
By award of court under Commonwealth Act	15	3,549	1,168	..	..	..	15	3,549	1,168
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act	5	824	127	..	..	..	5	824	127
By award under State Act	121	77,304	17,373	1	250	(112*)	122	77,554	17,261
By agreement registered under State Act	28	1,838	681	..	..	..	28	1,838	681
TOTAL	189	87,339	21,074	12	13,819	7,822	201	101,158	28,896
Victoria—									
By voluntary action of employers	5	2,047	497	..	..	..	5	2,047	497
By direct negotiations	12	944	215	2	120	58	14	1,064	273
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party	3	335	143	2	2,150	925	5	2,485	1,068
By award of court under Commonwealth Act	14	8,553	3,270	..	..	..	14	8,553	3,270
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act	10	3,160	346	..	..	..	10	3,160	346
By determination under State Act	57	50,513	9,540	1	450	135	58	50,963	9,675
TOTAL	101	65,552	14,011	5	2,720	1,118	106	68,272	15,129
Queensland—									
By voluntary action of employers	2	77	20	..	..	..	2	77	20
By direct negotiations	7	7,788	2,548	7	487	285	14	8,275	2,833
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party	2	190	85	1	1,250	780	3	1,440	865
By award of court under Commonwealth Act	9	2,261	780	..	..	..	9	2,261	780
By award under State Act	71	51,876	12,834	1	56	13	72	51,932	12,847
By agreement registered under State Act	41	8,598	2,658	1	260	80	42	8,858	2,738
TOTAL	132	70,790	18,925	10	2,053	1,158	142	72,843	20,083
South Australia—									
By voluntary action of employers	5	6,001	2,123	..	..	..	5	6,001	2,123
By direct negotiations	11	259	67	4	105	130	15	364	197
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party	1	40	18	..	..	..	1	40	18
By award of court under Commonwealth Act	13	2,483	738	..	..	..	13	2,483	738
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act	2	1,012	163	..	..	..	2	1,012	163
By award or determination under State Act	36	9,542	2,640	1	26	2	37	9,568	2,642
By agreement registered under State Act	4	651	153	1	90	36	5	741	189
TOTAL	72	19,988	5,902	6	221	168	78	20,209	6,070

* Decrease.

Changes in Rates of Wage—Methods by which Effected, 1917—continued

METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES WERE EFFECTED.	WITHOUT STOPPAGE OF WORK.			AFTER STOPPAGE OF WORK.			ALL CHANGES.		
	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of Increase per week.	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of increase per week.	No. of Changes.	No. of Work-people Affected.	Total Net Amount of Increase per week.
Western Australia—									
By direct negotiations ..	10	3,673	1,184	3	116	63	13	3,789	1,247
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party ..	2	480	228	..	..	..	2	480	228
By award of court under Commonwealth Act ..	8	1,495	535	..	..	..	8	1,495	535
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act ..	5	157	56	..	..	..	5	157	56
By award under State Act ..	14	6,386	1,174	..	..	..	14	6,386	1,174
By agreement registered under State Act ..	13	690	167	..	..	..	13	690	167
TOTAL	52	12,881	3,344	3	116	63	55	12,997	3,407
Tasmania—									
By voluntary action of employers ..	6	642	125	..	..	..	6	642	125
By direct negotiations ..	3	208	75	..	..	..	3	208	75
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party ..	1	30	14	1	145	90	2	175	104
By award of court under Commonwealth Act ..	15	1,653	718	..	..	..	15	1,653	718
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act ..	5	290	87	..	..	..	5	290	87
By determination under State Act ..	7	2,320	878	..	..	..	7	2,320	878
TOTAL	37	5,143	1,897	1	145	90	38	5,288	1,987
Northern Territory—									
By voluntary action of employers ..	1	183	50	..	..	..	1	183	50
By direct negotiations ..	2	120	79	2	75	61	4	195	140
By award of court under Commonwealth Act ..	11	765	445	..	..	..	11	765	445
TOTAL	14	1,068	574	2	75	61	16	1,143	635
All States—									
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act ..	1	11,000	4,800	..	..	..	1	11,000	4,800
TOTAL	1	11,000	4,800	..	..	..	1	11,000	4,800
Commonwealth*—									
By voluntary action of employers ..	24	9,531	3,097	..	..	..	24	9,531	3,097
By direct negotiations ..	49	13,727	4,465	26	2,100	964	75	15,827	5,429
By negotiations, intervention or assistance of third party ..	7	3,583	1,634	7	15,917	9,362	14	19,500	10,996
By award of court under Commonwealth Act* ..	35	20,759	7,654	..	..	..	35	20,759	7,654
By agreement registered under Commonwealth Act* ..	28	16,443	5,579	..	..	..	28	16,443	5,579
By award or determination under State Acts ..	306	197,941	44,439	4	782	38	310	198,723	44,477
By agreement registered under State Acts ..	86	11,777	3,659	2	350	116	88	12,127	3,775
TOTAL*	535	273,761	70,527	39	19,149	10,480	574	292,910	81,007

* In this section of the table an Award or Agreement under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the Commonwealth (Public Service) Arbitration Act or an Order of the War Precautions Coal Board is counted as one change only, although such Award, Agreement or Order may be operative in more than one State.

SECTION XII.—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

1. **General.**—The systematic collection of statistical information regarding industrial disputes (strikes and lock-outs) which occur in each State and Territory throughout the Commonwealth was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913, and particulars relating thereto, for the first complete year, were published in Labour Report No. 5. Section XI. (Strikes and Lock-outs). An examination of the available data contained in official reports, newspapers, and other publications during past years shewed that insufficient material existed, for the compilation of anything like complete or comprehensive statistics regarding industrial disputes in the Commonwealth for years prior to 1913. A considerable amount of information relating to strikes and lock-outs which took place in New South Wales after the 1st July, 1907, has been published in the New South Wales Industrial Gazette (April, 1913, January, 1914, and subsequent issues), but even these particulars are stated to be more or less incomplete until after March, 1912. With regard to the other States, very meagre information only can be obtained as to the numbers of industrial disputes, much less as to their duration or the number of persons involved.

(i.) *Collection of Particulars.*—Under the system initiated in 1913 information as to the occurrence of an industrial dispute is derived from a number of sources, of which the following are the most important:—
 (a) Reports by labour agents and correspondents who have been appointed in all the most important industrial centres of the Commonwealth; (b) official notifications from heads of various Commonwealth and State Departments; (c) monthly reports sent in by secretaries of trade unions, and (d) newspapers, trade and labour journals, and other publications.

Upon information being furnished as to the existence of an industrial dispute involving stoppage of work, forms* are despatched to the several parties concerned, viz., secretaries of trade unions, employers' organisations, and individual employers. The first parts of these forms are required to be returned immediately, and provide for the insertion of information as to (a) the locality in which the dispute exists; (b) its cause or object; (c) the date of commencement; and (d) the number of persons involved directly and indirectly. The second parts of the forms, which are required to be returned as soon as the dispute is terminated, provide for information regarding (a) the date of termination; (b) the conditions or terms on which work was resumed; (c) the method by which settlement was effected; (d) the estimated loss in wages; and (e) particulars as to the number of workpeople affected, etc., if the terms of the settlement involved a change in rates of wage or hours of labour.

(ii.) *Methods of Tabulation.*—Where the information furnished by one party to the dispute substantially agrees with that furnished by the other, the facts are considered to be accurate, and the particulars are

* As these forms have been prescribed under the Census and Statistics Act 1905, it is compulsory upon prescribed persons to furnish the information required.

accepted for tabulation. In all cases where discrepancies or inconsistent accounts are received, special enquiries are instituted, ordinarily through the labour agents and correspondents. The whole of the available information is then determined as judicially as possible, making the summarised results to agree not necessarily with the testimony of a single individual, but to harmonise with the concurrent evidence of the majority, or of those whose returns appear to be the most reliable. It may, therefore, happen that the particulars, as presented in these Reports concerning certain disputes, do not agree with those submitted by the participants in such disputes. Certain stoppages of work are, however, excluded from the tabulations, for the reason that they are not of sufficient magnitude. Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople or which lasted for less than one day, except where the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 10 days, are excluded. In tabulating the particulars thus received and compared, the information is divided under four headings:—(a) Number of establishments involved; (b) number of workpeople involved (i.) directly and (ii.) indirectly; (c) number of working days lost; and (d) estimated loss in wages.

(iii.) *Definitions and Explanations of Terms.*—Industrial Disputes involving stoppage of work may be classified under three main headings, viz., (a) a strike, (b) lock-out, or (c) a sympathetic strike. For the purposes of these investigations the following definitions* have been accepted:—

- (a) A strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers.
- (b) A lock-out is a refusal on the part of an employer or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees.
- (c) A sympathetic strike is one in which the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, make no demand for their own benefit, but leave work in order to assist employees of some other establishment or establishments, on strike or locked out, for the purpose of enforcing or resisting a demand.

In view of the difficulty which may often occur in distinguishing clearly whether a stoppage of work constitutes a strike or a lock-out, for

* It must be observed, however, that certain stoppages of work do not come within these definitions, such as those where the relationship of employer and employee does not exist, e.g., rabbit-trappers who refused to continue to supply certain freezing companies with rabbits owing to the companies refusing to pay an advanced price; and labourers refusing to commence work at the rate of wage offered. It has been held judicially that a refusal to commence or to continue work does not constitute a strike, unless such refusal is a breach of an existing contract of employment. Again, stoppages of work for the purpose of holding meetings are not designated industrial disputes, seeing that the stoppages are not necessarily for the purpose of enforcing or resisting demands. The majority of these meetings are held during working hours so as to ensure a full attendance, and are generally called to discuss some question with a view to ascertain whether any definite action should be taken.

The stop-work meetings to protest against conscription are, however, included in the tabulations, as they were called with a definite object, i.e., to cause a dislocation of industry with a view to directing attention to the opinion of a section of the workers.

the purposes of these investigations all stoppages coming within the definitions adopted, are grouped under the generic term "industrial disputes."

"Establishment" means the place of work or business carried on by a person, firm, company, or Government Department. Shops, factories, places of business or construction or repairing works of different employers in the same locality, or of the same employer in different localities, are considered as separate establishments.

"Workpeople directly involved in dispute"** includes only those workpeople who actually joined in the demand and who, on refusal of such demand, ceased work. In the case of a lock-out the term is used to include the number of workpeople whom the employer refused to allow to work unless they complied with his demand.

"Workpeople indirectly involved in dispute" refers only to those employees who were involuntarily thrown out of work as the result of an industrial dispute, caused by certain other employees going on strike or through an employer or employers locking out certain other employees, whose absence from work rendered it impossible for work to proceed in the establishment or establishments affected by the dispute. It often occurs also that when one section of employees is engaged in an industrial dispute the effect of such dispute is to cause loss of time to other employees, following occupations which are dependent upon those followed by the workpeople actually on strike or locked out.

"Working days lost" refers to working time lost in consequence of the dispute, and is obtained by multiplying the number of workpeople directly and indirectly involved by the duration of the dispute in working days.

In computing the duration of a dispute in working days, Sundays (except where continuous processes are carried on) and holidays are excluded. It is generally considered that had a dispute not occurred the employment would have been constant, and allowance is not made for short time work, due to slackness of trade, etc. This course is not precisely correct, but until a complete investigation can be made as to the amount of unemployment due to seasonal trades, or intermittency in trade activity, no definite allowance can be computed and allowed.

"Estimated loss in Wages" is computed, and represents the amount in wages which would have been earned by the workpeople involved had a stoppage not taken place. It is admitted that the element of unemployment also enters into this phase of the statistics. Further, in some industrial work (e.g., shearing and sugar-cane cutting) the amount of work available is definite, and the amount to be earned in wages, in executing the work, is not reduced by reason of it not being entered upon and finished within a certain reasonable period. For some purposes,

* The same persons may, of course, be involved in two or more disputes in a single year, in which case they would be duplicated in the statistics of the number of workpeople involved in disputes. This remark also applies to those workpeople involuntarily thrown out of work.

therefore, it may be contended that a loss in wages is not necessarily incurred if only the commencement or completion of the work is delayed through a stoppage of work.

In all **quarterly** tabulations particulars of disputes which commenced within the quarterly period (so far as they relate to the number of working days and wages lost) are separated from those respecting disputes which had commenced in a previous quarter, but which had not been settled within that period.

In **annual** tabulations particulars are included only with respect to industrial disputes which commenced during any calendar year.* This course requires the elimination of such data as relates to disputes which commenced during an earlier period, but which remained unsettled during some portion of the succeeding year. On the other hand it necessitates the inclusion of the number of working days and wages lost during the following year in connection with disputes commenced during the calendar year to which the statistics relate. For this reason the aggregate of the particulars relating to the four quarters of any year will not necessarily agree with the annual results.

(iv.) *Other Particulars.*—The information obtained from the before-mentioned tabulations forms the basis for further analysis, and data are thus afforded with respect to the following:—(a) The duration of disputes; (b) the causes of disputes; (c) the results of disputes; and (d) the methods by which settlements of disputes are effected. The main features of and the extent of each analysis are fully dealt with in succeeding sub-sections, and are accompanied by relative tables. In the periodical results published in the quarterly Bulletins, beginning with the first quarter of 1915, brief information has been included with respect to (a) the locality, industry, and occupation affected; (b) the number of workpeople directly and indirectly involved; (c) the dates of commencement and termination; (d) the alleged cause or object; and (e) the result of each dispute.

2. **Industrial Disputes, Number and Magnitude in each State and Territory, 1913-1917.**—In the following table complete particulars are given with respect to the number and magnitude of industrial disputes which commenced in each State and Territory in the years indicated. The annual figures for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 5, and those for the years 1914, 1915 and 1916 were shewn in detail in Labour Reports Nos. 6 and 7. In order to allow of a ready comparison of the results, particulars are furnished in the table below for the five years 1913 to 1917:—

* Any tabulation as to causes, duration, etc., based on disputes which were in existence in any given year, and not on those which commenced in that year, would inevitably result in confusion, seeing that particulars relating to the same dispute would probably occur in two successive years.

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude in each State and Territory,
and for the Commonwealth, 1913-1917.

State or Territory.	Year.	No. of Disputes	Establishments Involved in Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Total Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
N. S. Wales	1913	134	466	25,647	14,364	40,011	468,957	216,368
	1914	235	908	33,955	22,326	56,281	836,948	419,656
	1915	272	694	47,006	22,608	69,614	484,343	240,322
	1916	336	717	91,762	31,638	123,400	1,145,222	674,064
	1917	296	918	118,515	15,508	134,023	3,308,869	1,929,405
Victoria	1913	29	63	4,151	2,026	6,177	85,212	35,744
	1914	44	184	5,699	1,352	7,051	84,106	39,619
	1915	38	154	5,434	809	6,243	64,878	28,476
	1916	55	449	13,576	2,092	15,668	228,269	114,683
	1917	52	636	15,976	2,114	18,090	760,410	378,946
Queensland	1913	17	20	1,781	225	2,006	55,288	28,374
	1914	18	42	1,280	406	1,686	25,703	11,747
	1915	17	39	1,477	589	2,066	19,934	9,505
	1916	64	252	17,367	2,51	20,318	170,690	96,976
	1917	39	202	12,074	971	13,045	317,699	178,125
South Australia	1913	9	13	272	16	288	2,412	1,029
	1914	13	45	616	575	1,191	15,275	7,677
	1915	15	25	1,314	169	1,483	19,877	14,442
	1916	21	45	1,037	603	1,643	10,583	6,004
	1917	24	44	3,958	148	4,104	57,446	30,306
W. Australia	1913	9	324	967	..	967	6,772	3,515
	1914	18	19	1,117	3,292	4,409	124,175	70,552
	1915	6	20	578	68	646	4,068	2,294
	1916	24	35	4,318	4,782	9,100	102,357	64,325
	1917	23	128	2,401	547	2,948	102,078	53,004
Tasmania	1913	8	30	444	20	464	987	434
	1914	6	22	288	25	313	3,286	1,459
	1915	2	2	922	..	922	4,808	2,174
	1916	6	36	366	68	434	21,389	11,207
	1917	8	11	1,062	623	1,685	52,541	24,502
Fed. Cap. Terr.	1913	1	1	100	100	200	1,400	600
	1914	1	1	50	..	50	350	170
	1915	1	1	20	..	20	80	55
	1916	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1917	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nth. Territory	1913	1	4	131	39	170	2,500	1,675
	1914	2	2	68	..	68	552	348
	1915	7	7	254	44	298	5,237	2,365
	1916	2	2	120	..	120	420	345
	1917	2	2	75	..	75	615	520
Commonwealth	1913	208	921	33,493	16,790	50,283	623,528	287,739
	1914	337	1,203	43,073	27,976	71,049	1,090,395	551,228
	1915	358	942	57,005	24,287	81,292	583,225	299,633
	1916	508	†1,536	128,546	42,137	170,683	1,678,930	967,604
	1917	444	1,941	154,061	19,909	173,970	4,599,658	2,594,808

† These figures do not include establishments affected by the anti-conscription stop-work meetings, as definite particulars as to the number of establishments were not ascertainable.

It may be seen from the foregoing table that industrial disputes throughout the Commonwealth were most frequent during the year 1916. The number of workpeople involved in disputes during 1916 and 1917 increased to an enormous extent, while the losses in working days and wages were considerably in excess of such losses during any previous yearly period. It must be mentioned, however, that the figures for 1914 and 1916 include particulars of abnormal disputes which occurred in the coal mining industry during those years, while particulars relating to the "card system" dispute at the Government Railway Workshops in New South Wales are included in the figures for the year 1917.

The prevalence of industrial disputes in New South Wales, as compared with the other States, continued during the year 1917. The proportion of disputes in each State is best expressed in a percentage of the aggregate number recorded for all States and Territories. Thus the disputes in New South Wales represented 64 per cent. in 1913, 70 per cent. in 1914, 76 per cent. in 1915, 66 per cent. in 1916, and nearly 67 per cent. in 1917. The disputes in Victoria equalled 14, 13, 11, 11 and 12 per cent. of the total industrial disputes in the respective years, while Queensland disputes represented approximately 8, 5, 5, 13 and 9 per cent. of the total disputes during the same periods. In the other States and Territories the number of disputes recorded form but a small proportion of the aggregate number.

The position which New South Wales occupies in comparison with the other States is practically wholly due to the prevalence of disputes in connection with coal mining. Apart from these stoppages the number of disputes in all other industries, whilst still in excess of that for each of the other States, does not compare unfavourably when the number of workpeople in each State is taken into consideration.

It is, of course, obvious that the mere number of disputes cannot by itself be accepted as a proper basis of comparison, nor does the number of workpeople afford a satisfactory basis. A better idea as to the significance and effect of industrial disputes may be obtained from the number of working days lost and the estimated loss in wages.

The number of working days lost on account of disputes which commenced during the year 1917, totalled 4,599,658, as compared with 1,678,930 during 1916, 583,225 during 1915, 1,090,395 during 1914, and 623,528 for 1913. It has already been mentioned that the figures for the years 1914, 1916 and 1917 include the heavy losses in working days and wages caused by exceptionally serious disputes which occurred during these years.

Particulars relating to the "card system" dispute at the Government Railway Workshops in New South Wales in August last are included in the tabulations for the year 1917. The dispute, which commenced on the 2nd August, when the employees at the workshops ceased work, such action, according to statements of their representatives, being a protest against the introduction of a time-card system, rapidly extended to other industries throughout the Commonwealth. Railway employees in other branches of the service, coal and metalliferous miners, seamen, waterside workers and others left work, most of them stating that they did so in sympathy with the railway men, while other bodies of workers, including carters, storemen and artificial manure makers, stated that they refused to handle "black" goods and coal, and acted accordingly. The various disputes throughout the Commonwealth which followed on the action of the railway workshops' employees have been summarised and tabulated with a view to ascertaining the total number of workpeople involved and also the consequent losses in wages and working days.

After careful consideration of the data it was ascertained that 79 disputes throughout the various States were directly associated with the action of the employees at the railway workshops. Of these 79

disputes, 52 occurred in New South Wales ; 18 in Victoria ; 3 in South Australia ; and 2 in each of the remaining States. The total number of workpeople involved in these dislocations was 97,507, the loss in working days was 3,982,250, with a consequent estimated loss in wages of £2,233,000. In New South Wales the loss of wages is estimated at £1,780,000 ; in Victoria, £325,500 ; in Queensland, £62,000 ; in South Australia, £7400 ; in Western Australia, £42,300 ; and in Tasmania, £15,800.

Of the total number of workpeople involved (97,507) 77,357, or 79 per cent., were resident in New South Wales ; 14,200, or 15 per cent., in Victoria ; 2350, or 2 per cent., in Queensland ; and the remaining 3600, or 4 per cent., in the other States. In New South Wales the loss in working days was 3,071,000, or 77 per cent. of the total number (3,982,250) ; in Victoria, 637,300, or 16 per cent. ; in Queensland, 123,600, or 3 per cent. ; in West Australia, 84,100, or 2 per cent. The number of working days lost in South Australia and Tasmania was 14,100 and 32,150 respectively.

Owing to the action of the workpeople engaged in transport and coal-mining, the dispute became one of a far-reaching character, and practically all industries in New South Wales and Victoria were affected to a certain extent, the most serious cases being the railway and tramway services, coal and metalliferous mining, shipping and waterside working, general transport, engineering and metal working and the timber trade. The number of workpeople in railway and tramway services (including the railway workshops' employees, who initiated the strike) was 22,851, or 23 per cent. of the total number involved. Coal and metalliferous mining employees affected numbered 22,570, or 23 per cent. ; seamen, wharf labourers, coal lumpers and others engaged in the shipping industry, 22,757, or 23 per cent. ; while 22,009 persons engaged in various manufacturing industries, including engineers, metal workers, timber workers, artificial manure makers, rubber workers and rope and cordage makers, were involved. Carters, lorry drivers and others engaged in the transport of goods to the number of 6050 were also directly affected by the dislocation.

In connection with the estimated loss of wages (£2,233,000) in various industries, workpeople in the mining section suffered to the greatest extent, no less than £781,250 or 35 per cent., of the total estimated loss, being recorded as the loss to employees engaged in coal and other mining. Other industries in which the workpeople lost large sums in wages were shipping and wharf labouring (£609,690, or 27 per cent.) ; railway and tramway services (£354,310, or 16 per cent.) ; general transport of goods (£124,000, or 6 per cent.) ; and manufacturing industries, including engineering and timber working (£244,690, or 11 per cent.).

The figures and particulars given in the preceding paragraphs concerning the " Card System " dispute relate to losses in working days and wages incurred by workpeople *directly* involved in the dispute, and regarding which definite information was obtainable. In addition, however, there was considerable dislocation of employment in various in-

dustries, although the workpeople engaged in such industries were taking no direct action in connection with the dispute. It may be said that these industries and workpeople were *involuntarily* involved. This effect was very far-reaching, and various industries were stopped completely, or were compelled to reduce hands or working time. In the majority of cases the restriction placed upon the use of coal, gas and electricity was the main cause of reducing employment; in others it was the lack of transport facilities, while in others, again, work was discontinued owing to the fact that consumption or use of certain classes of manufactured goods was considerably curtailed, and employers discontinued manufacture owing to the lack of storage accommodation and the unsettled state of industry.

Special enquiries were instituted to ascertain the number of workpeople and working days lost by persons who were *indirectly* or *involuntarily* affected by the dispute. The results of the enquiries, however, were unsatisfactory, as the particulars collected were so vague and qualified that it was not considered advisable to use the data for computing the losses in working days and wages by such workpeople. The Industrial Commissioner of New South Wales, who issued a special report in February last on "The New South Wales Strike Crisis, 1917,"* also considered the data collected by him in regard to the workpeople *indirectly* affected to be unsuitable for statistical purposes. In Victoria the Under-Secretary for Labour collected much valuable information regarding the industries affected, the number of workpeople out of employment, and the number on short time, etc. The period for which these particulars were available was from 8th September to 9th November, 1917. The number of male workers who were involuntarily thrown out of work during this period, according to these returns, varied from 2250 to 5000, while the female workers affected varied from 800 to 3200. In addition it was estimated that the number of workpeople who were working short time during this period ranged from 3600 to 22,000. Some idea of the amount of unemployment in Victoria amongst workpeople who were involuntarily thrown out of work may be gathered from the above particulars. It was not found possible, however, to compute, with any degree of accuracy, the number of working days or amount of wages lost by such workpeople. The occupations of the persons who are included in the above figures comprise, amongst others, bootmakers, agricultural implement makers, brickmakers, confectioners, carpenters, ironworkers, nailmakers, tanners, matchmakers, pottery makers, builders' labourers, and maltsters. In the other States, the loss of employment to workpeople, other than those directly involved in the dispute, was not as extensive as in New South Wales and Victoria.

Under the provisions of the War Precautions Act 1914-1916, a number of Regulations were made providing for certain contingencies which were considered likely to arise during the course of the dispute.

* This Report was prepared by direction of the Hon. the Minister for Labour and Industry by the Industrial Commissioner of New South Wales, and was issued as a Special Supplement of the New South Wales Industrial Gazette.

In the following paragraphs the main provisions and terms of these Regulations are shewn :—

Power to de-register Organisations which cease Work.

“ Where the Governor-General is satisfied that any association or organisation of employees registered under any Commonwealth or State Act relating to arbitration or the prevention or settlement of industrial disputes has, or that members thereof or of any branch or section thereof, have since the making of this regulation ceased work or become engaged in a strike or cessation of work, the Governor-General may by notice in the *Gazette* declare that he is so satisfied, and thereupon the registration of the association or organisation shall for all purposes whatsoever be deemed to be cancelled and the members of the association or organisation shall cease to be entitled to the benefit of any award applicable to the association or organisation, or, where the declaration applies only to one or more branches or sections of the association or organisation, the registration of the association or organisation shall as regards the members of that branch or section of those branches or sections, be deemed for all purposes whatsoever to be cancelled, and the members of that branch or section or those branches or sections shall cease to be entitled to the benefit of any award applicable to the association or organisation.

“ Within seven days after the publication in the *Gazette* of any such declaration application may be made to the Attorney-General by or on behalf of the association, organisation, branch or section to which the declaration relates for the cancellation of the declaration, and if, after the Attorney-General has heard the representations made by or on behalf of the association, organisation, branch or section, the Governor-General is satisfied that the association or organisation, or the members thereof or of the branch or section, as the case may be, did not cease work or become engaged in a strike or cessation of work, the Governor-General may by order cancel the declaration made by him, and the declaration shall thereupon be deemed to be and to have been of no effect.”

Power to cancel Provision in Agreements relating to Preference in Employment.

“ If the Governor-General is satisfied that any trade union or other association of employees has, or that members thereof or of any branch or section thereof, have ceased work or become engaged in a strike or cessation of work, the Governor-General may by notice in the *Gazette* cancel so much of the provisions of any agreement made between the trade union, association, branch, or section and one or more employers as provides for or relates to preference in employment to members of the trade union, association, branch, or section, or as provides for members of the trade union, association, branch, or section not being required or permitted to work with or alongside of persons not being members, and thereupon the provisions so cancelled shall cease to have any effect whatever.”

The following amendments of War Precautions Regulations were made :—

“ Any person who, by word, deed, or otherwise—

- (a) Interferes with, impedes, prevents or hinders the discharge, loading, coaling, or despatch of shipping, or the performance of any industrial operation connected therewith or incidental thereto, or
- (b) Interferes with or impedes any person or body of persons engaged in, or dissuades, prevents or hinders any person or body of persons from becoming, or continuing to be, engaged in, the discharge, loading, coaling, or despatch of shipping, or the performance of any such industrial operation,

shall be guilty of an offence.”

“ Any person who by word, deed or otherwise—

- (a) Interferes with, impedes, prevents, or hinders, shearing operations or any work connected therewith, or incidental thereto, or the loading, carriage, unloading, handling, or storing of wool, or
- (b) Interferes with, or impedes, any person or body of persons engaged in, or dissuades, prevents, or hinders any person or body of persons from becoming, or continuing to be, engaged in shearing operations, or any work connected therewith, or incidental thereto, or the loading, carriage, unloading, handling, or storage of wool,

shall be guilty of an offence.”

A Regulation issued under the same Act provided for the appointment of “ Coal Boards ” in the several States. Subject to this Regulation any person, firm, or company and any authority constituted under the Commonwealth or any State, possessing, whether for industrial purposes or not, more than five tons of coal or coke, had to submit a return verified by statutory declaration to the respective official appointed in each State, setting forth the quantity and nature of the coal or coke possessed by him or it, and the place at which such coal or coke is stored. Persons, firms, companies and authorities were prohibited from using for industrial purposes any coal or coke in their possession, except under and in accordance with special permits or directions from the Minister or a Coal Board. Railways, tramways, electric light works, gas works, hospitals and certain industries were permitted to use coal and coke in their possession for a period of seven days after the issue of the Regulation. The supplying of electric current or gas for industrial purposes, without the consent in writing of the Minister or a Coal Board, was prohibited. The use of electricity or gas for the purpose of any display of advertising device or sign was also prohibited, as was also the use of these utilities for domestic purposes during certain specified hours.

A Regulation was also issued to compel the holders of licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquor at Broken Hill and Port Pirie to close their premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

Under Section 60, which provides for the cancellation of registration of organisations under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, an application for the de-registration of the Waterside

Workers' Federation was made to the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Court. The affidavits set out that the Federation was in dispute with the shipowners throughout Australia, and with the stevedores and others; also that, consequent on a strike of railway men at the railway workshops in Sydney over the card system, the wharf labourers in Sydney and Melbourne "refused to offer their services for work." The President of the Court refused the de-registration of the Federation on the ground that, as the organisation had amended its rules so as to control its members better, no good purpose would be served by the cancellation.

Orders cancelling the provisions in agreements relating to preference in employment were gazetted in the Commonwealth *Gazette* during September. The members of the Waterside Workers' Federation at various ports throughout the Commonwealth, the members of the Federated Storemen's and Packers' Union in New South Wales, and the members of the Federated Ship Painters' and Dockers' Union at Sydney and Melbourne were deprived of their preferential claim to employment by these Orders.

Emergency legislation was enacted in New South Wales. The Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Act 1917 was assented to on 18th August, 1917, and the Electric Lighting and Gas Emergency Act 1917 was assented to on the same date. These Acts were passed with the object of empowering the Government to exercise control over coal, electricity, and gas and the distribution thereof. The Boards, appointed under the provisions of the Electric Lighting and Gas Emergency Act 1917, issued notifications limiting the supply and use of gas and electricity. Special efforts were made to conserve the supply, and also to furnish power for industrial purposes. The use of gas and electricity for domestic purposes was prohibited during certain hours.

In New South Wales and also in Victoria the organisation of emergency labour was undertaken by the Government. In the former State camps were formed in which the volunteers were accommodated during their employment in the various industries. The Victorian Government, alarmed at the prospect of the coal supply being exhausted, arranged to take over two collieries in New South Wales. Volunteer labour was engaged in Victoria and sent to the collieries.

Proclamations were published in the New South Wales Government *Gazette* during August proclaiming that the Government had assumed possession of motor vehicles in private hands, and also of all horse-drawn vehicles used for carrying, and horses that are used with such vehicles of every description in the State, with full power to use same in any manner which seemed fit to the Government.

The Court of Industrial Arbitration of New South Wales cancelled the registration as industrial unions under the State Act of over twenty unions on the grounds that such unions had either instigated or aided a strike. Amongst the unions which were de-registered were many of the largest in the State. A number of new unions were formed during the course of the dispute, and on application for registration as industrial unions under the State Act, were granted registration by the Court in place of the unions de-registered.

The following are the terms of the settlement of the Railway Strike :—

(1) The card system as existing on the 1st August to be continued, and at the end of three months a Royal Commission to be appointed to inquire into and determine whether its operations are just or otherwise and should be continued.

(2) In the operation of the card system every man shall, every day, have the opportunity of inspecting and initialling his card relating to the previous day's work.

(3) Unions to submit full list of grievances to the Special Commissioner for Conciliation appointed under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912.

(4) Such of the grievances as raise issues which fall within the jurisdiction of the Court of Industrial Arbitration are to be immediately referred by or through the said Commissioner to the Court.

(5) Such of the grievances as raise issues which are not within the jurisdiction of the Court are to be referred by the said Commissioner to Cabinet, which will immediately amend the Industrial Arbitration Acts so as to give the Court jurisdiction over all matters which are industrial, but not matters of business management.

(6) The Chief Railway Commissioner is to have discretion in filling all vacancies, but in making appointments prior consideration is to be given to the claims of applicants who were in the service of the Commissioner on or before the 1st August last.

(7) It is mutually understood that work shall be resumed without resentment, and employment offered without vindictiveness.

The dislocation of work following on the "card system" dispute is the most extensive which has been recorded by the Bureau since the systematic collection of particulars was undertaken at the beginning of the year 1913. In 1914, a protracted dispute occurred in the coal mining industry in New South Wales over the refusal of the miners to work the afternoon shift. The number of working days lost owing to this dislocation was 523,000, and the estimated loss in wages was approximately £259,000. Another dispute of considerable magnitude was recorded in the year 1916, when coal mining employees in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania ceased work over the question of "eight hours bank to bank." The total losses caused by the stoppages were 409,000 working days and £240,850 in wages. It will be seen, therefore, that the losses occasioned by the "card system" dispute greatly exceed any previously recorded.

In regard to extensive dislocations of industry which occurred prior to the institution of systematic inquiries by the Bureau, efforts have been made to obtain statistical data relating to the shearers' disputes in 1890, 1891 and 1894, and also concerning the number of workpeople involved and the losses caused by the maritime dispute in the early part of 1891, but precise information which could be utilised for statistical purposes regarding such particulars was not obtainable.

During the early part of the year 1917, the most serious dislocations were those which involved glass bottle makers in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, wheat stackers and baggers in New South Wales and Victoria, quarrymen in Victoria, ham and bacon curers

and mining employees in Queensland, masters and mates and slaughtermen in Western Australia, and miners and others at Mount Lyell in Tasmania.

3. Industrial Disputes, Classified in Industrial Groups, 1917.—In the following tables particulars are given for each State and Territory, as well as for the Commonwealth, of industrial disputes which commenced during the year 1917, classified according to industrial groups. Similar information for the year 1913 was published in Labour Report No. 5, for the years 1914 and 1915 in Labour Report No. 6, and for the year 1916 in Labour Report No. 7.

Industrial Disputes, Classified according to Industrial Groups, 1917.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Establishments involved	No. of Workpeople Involved.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages
			Directly	Indirectly	Total		
New South Wales.							
I. Wood, sawmill, timber, &c.	3	27	1,894	1,045	2,939	73,527	39,470
II. Engineering, metal works, &c.	17	36	4,771	216	4,987	147,430	91,340
III. Food, drink, &c., manufacturing and distribution	16	75	1,890	1,120	3,010	67,232	36,452
VI. Other manufacturing	28	39	8,205	1,816	10,021	210,422	120,515
VII. Building	1	6	200		200	6,470	3,500
VIII. Mines, quarries, &c.	183	279	53,046	10,058	63,104	1,172,863	856,514
IX. Railway and tramway services	11	11	23,596	1,151	24,747	746,134	357,563
X. Other land transport	2	271	4,268		4,268	178,518	80,009
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c.	12	37	12,881	47	12,928	677,243	327,213
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c.	9	86	811	45	856	7,949	5,103
XIII. Domestic, hotels, &c.	1	1	9	4	13	13	4
XIV. Miscellaneous	13	50	6,941	6	6,950	21,068	11,722
TOTAL	296	918	118,515	15,508	134,023	3,308,869	1,929,405
Victoria.							
I. Wood, sawmill, timber, &c.	2	141	2,620	140	2,760	103,030	55,565
II. Engineering, metal works, &c.	2	6	290	150	440	15,280	7,710
III. Food, drink, &c., manufacturing and distribution	3	8	767	29	796	10,504	4,745
VI. Other manufacturing	10	40	2,812	736	3,548	100,815	51,115
VII. Building	1	1	4		4	48	24
VIII. Mines, quarries, &c.	8	20	1,958	745	2,703	86,122	45,259
IX. Railway and tramway services	1	1	90		90	270	130
X. Other land transport	1	300	1,600	200	1,800	86,400	44,000
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c.	6	22	4,542		4,542	326,843	158,402
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c.	11	60	770	24	794	4,533	2,556
XIII. Domestic, hotels, &c.	1	1	127		127	635	140
XIV. Miscellaneous	6	36	396	90	486	20,930	9,300
TOTAL	52	636	15,976	2,114	18,090	760,410	378,946
Queensland.							
III. Food, drink, etc., manufacturing and distribution	9	16	2,670	164	2,834	13,714	8,872
VI. Other manufacturing	3	4	83	1	84	736	388
VII. Building	2	2	36		36	61	36
VIII. Mines, quarries, &c.	7	7	2,648	6	2,654	39,367	27,593
IX. Railway and tramway services	5	5	2,847	800	3,647	60,923	33,489
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c.	8	14	2,747		2,747	124,647	62,613
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c.	2	151	1,005		1,005	78,030	40,016
XIV. Miscellaneous	3	3	38		38	221	118
TOTAL	39	202	12,074	971	13,045	317,699	178,125
South Australia.							
II. Engineering, metal works, &c.	2	2	17		17	606	334
VI. Other manufacturing	1	1	200		200	14,000	7,000
IX. Railway and tramway services	8	8	1,055	85	1,140	25,785	13,958
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c.	6	15	2,097		2,097	15,508	8,122
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c.	4	15	260	55	315	1,250	697
XIV. Miscellaneous	3	3	329	6	335	297	195
Total	24	44	3,958	146	4,104	57,446	30,306

Industrial Disputes, Classified according to Industrial Groups, 1917—continued.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	No. of Disputes.	No. of establishments involved	No. of WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.			No. of Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages
			Directly	Indirectly	Total.		
Western Australia							
I. Wood, sawmill, timber, etc...	1	1	20	..	20	60	£ 40
II. Food, drink, &c., manufacturing and distribution ..	2	95	72	218	290	1,520	775
VI. Other manufacturing ..	2	2	31	..	31	20	63
VII. Building ..	2	2	111	52	163	1,505	1,032
IX. Railway and tramway services ..	4	4	338	8	346	1,036	729
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c. ..	8	16	1,733	26	2,002	97,319	50,083
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c. ..	1	5	50	..	50	150	100
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	3	3	46	..	46	218	182
Total	23	128	2,401	547	2,948	102,078	53,004
Tasmania							
I. Wood, sawmill, timber, etc...	2	2	37	7	44	549	232
VI. Other manufacturing ..	1	1	37	..	37	74	50
VIII. Mines, quarries, &c. ..	2	2	448	610	1,058	18,664	7,950
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c. ..	3	6	540	6	546	33,254	16,260
Total	8	11	1,062	623	1,685	52,541	24,502
Northern Territory.							
IX. Railway and tramway services ..	1	1	15	..	15	555	470
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c. ..	1	1	60	..	60	60	50
TOTAL	2	2	75	..	75	615	520
All States.							
I. Wood, sawmill, timber, &c. ..	8	171	4,571	1,192	5,763	182,166	95,307
II. Engineering, metal works, &c. ..	21	44	5,078	366	5,444	163,316	99,384
III. Food, drink, &c., manufacturing and distribution ..	30	194	5,399	1,531	6,930	92,970	50,844
VI. Other manufacturing ..	45	87	11,368	2,553	13,921	326,317	179,131
VII. Building ..	6	11	351	52	403	8,084	4,592
VIII. Mines, quarries, &c. ..	200	308	58,100	11,419	69,519	1,317,016	937,326
IX. Railway and tramway services ..	30	30	27,941	2,044	29,985	834,703	411,339
X. Other land transport ..	3	571	5,868	200	6,068	264,918	124,009
XI. Shipping, wharf labour, &c. ..	44	111	24,600	322	24,922	1,274,874	622,743
XII. Pastoral, agricultural, &c. ..	27	317	2,896	124	3,020	91,912	48,472
XIII. Domestic, hotels, &c. ..	2	2	136	4	140	648	144
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	28	95	7,753	102	7,855	42,734	21,517
TOTAL	444	1,941	154,061	19,909	173,970	4,599,658	2,594,808

Any comparison as to the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can only be reasonably made after omitting those which are recorded for mining, quarrying, etc. (Group VIII.). For the year 1913 the proportion of disputes in those industries represented practically 50 per cent. of the total number recorded. During the year 1914 this proportion rose to 55 per cent., and during 1915 to 57 per cent. In 1916 and also in 1917, however, the proportion of disputes in Group VIII. shewed a decrease, the figures representing 47 and 45 per cent. of the total number of disputes during the respective years. In considering this preponderating influence, attention has frequently been drawn to the considerable proportion contributed by the coal mining industry in New South Wales. In making any comparison as to the number of disputes in this industrial class in each State, it should be observed that the number of workers engaged in the mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any of the other States. The number of disputes recorded are, however, in excess of a similar proportion.

In Labour Bulletin No. 9, Section XIV., "Prohibition of Strikes and Lock-outs in Australia," the prevalence of industrial disputes in mining industries was investigated, vide pp. 103-4. Comparisons were made of the number of disputes and working days lost (for the years 1913 and 1914 combined) in three main industrial

groups, viz., manufacturing, mining, and all other industries, in each State and all States, both as to actual or *absolute* results and relative average annual results computed on a comparable basis (per 100,000 employees), based on the number of workers in each group. The presence of the abnormal figures for 1914, due to the protracted dispute in the northern colliery district of New South Wales, renders any comparison between the results for that and any other single year somewhat indefinite, hence the combination for *absolute* results of the figures for that year with those for the year 1913. The result of that investigation was repeated in Report No. 6, together with similarly computed results for the years 1914 and 1915 combined.

Of the total number of working days lost and the estimated total loss in wages due to disputes which commenced during the year 1917, 29 per cent. and 36 per cent. respectively were due to stoppages which involved employees in the mining and quarrying industries (Group VIII.).

Wharf labourers, seamen and others employed in the shipping industry (Group XI.) lost 1,274,874 days during the year. These figures represent 27 per cent. of the total, while employees in the railway and tramway services of the various States lost 834,703 working days. In comparison with previous years Groups I. (Wood, sawmill, timber, etc.), III. (Food, drink, etc.), VI. (Other manufacturing), X. (Other land transport), and XII. (Pastoral, agricultural, etc.), shew increased losses in working days and wages. It may be mentioned, however, that these increases, in all groups with the exception of Group XII. (Pastoral, etc.), are due to disputes which arose on account of the "card system" dispute which occurred at the Government Railway Workshops in New South Wales. Details regarding this dispute have been given on previous pages.

4. Duration of Industrial Disputes.—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the period which expires between the cessation and resumption of work, is for statistical purposes computed in working days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, except in those cases where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). For the purpose of tabulating comparative results as to the number of disputes, workpeople involved (directly and indirectly) and the consequent loss of working time and wages, the particulars relating to each dispute are classified according to varying periods over which the dispute remained unsettled. The following limitations of time have been adopted:—(a) One day or less; (b) two days and more than one day; (c) three days and more than two days; (d) over three days and under six days (the latter considered as constituting one week); (e) one week and under two weeks; (f) two weeks and under four weeks; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks; and (h) eight weeks and over.

Where a settlement of a dispute is reached and all the workpeople involved return to work at the same time, the duration of the dispute is readily determined. In other disputes (mainly those extending over long periods) varying conditions arise which tend to complicate the situation, such as (a) a proportion of the workpeople involved obtaining other employment; (b) a certain number of other workpeople being temporarily employed; and (c) the establishment involved in the dispute being closed down indefinitely and work abandoned. In such cases the dispute is considered to have terminated and its duration determined, either when a sufficient number of other workpeople have been engaged

to enable the establishment to be carried on (substantially as before the dispute), or when evidence is obtained that the establishment has been closed down indefinitely and work abandoned. Anomalous positions have been reached in some instances. In one case a dispute remained technically in existence so far as the workpeople were concerned, even after the establishment had been closed down and work therein abandoned. In another, a dispute was considered by the workpeople to be still in existence, notwithstanding that their places had been filled and the establishment had resumed operations.

(i.) *Duration of Industrial Disputes in Commonwealth, 1913-1917.*—In the following table comparative particulars are given with respect to the number of disputes, workpeople directly and indirectly involved, working days lost, and estimated amount of loss in wages respectively, consequent upon the cessations of work, which were recorded for the Commonwealth during the years 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917, classified under the adopted limits of duration.

Duration of Industrial Disputes in the Commonwealth, 1913-1917.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople Involved.			Number of Working Days Lost.	Total Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.		
1 day and less	1913	66	9,698	5,075	14,773	14,773	£ 8,168
	1914	118	15,295	10,192	25,487	25,438	13,744
	1915	147	21,846	11,326	33,172	31,559	19,452
	1916	155	55,680	10,711	66,391	65,757	35,293
	1917	158	28,705	6,758	35,463	35,065	26,733
2 days and more than 1 day	1913	22	2,631	1,945	4,576	9,022	4,449
	1914	53	6,309	3,352	9,661	18,382	8,986
	1915	44	6,671	2,246	8,917	17,794	9,464
	1916	57	11,607	5,923	17,530	31,775	17,672
	1917	47	7,093	2,383	9,476	18,917	12,253
3 days and more than 2 days	1913	17	1,294	610	1,904	5,707	2,946
	1914	29	2,983	1,987	4,970	14,910	7,500
	1915	30	3,526	1,513	5,039	14,944	7,672
	1916	45	8,050	5,220	13,270	39,419	23,612
	1917	29	4,363	433	4,796	14,340	9,442
Over 3 days and less than one week (6 days)	1913	25	3,785	1,004	4,789	19,057	8,940
	1914	38	2,252	2,117	4,369	19,728	9,449
	1915	31	5,032	3,153	8,185	36,469	21,176
	1916	81	13,460	5,918	19,378	86,817	50,484
	1917	39	4,749	1,578	6,327	27,132	16,868
1 week and less than 2 weeks	1913	34	7,551	1,972	9,523	72,156	32,700
	1914	38	5,222	1,206	6,428	53,108	27,868
	1915	48	11,372	4,184	15,556	127,477	41,875
	1916	64	8,081	5,493	13,574	108,978	60,933
	1917	58	9,003	1,669	10,672	79,857	47,336
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1913	21	1,439	4,671	6,110	76,260	41,040
	1914	30	6,382	4,491	10,873	181,896	91,419
	1915	21	4,101	624	4,725	64,959	47,404
	1916	41	8,565	3,960	12,525	202,657	117,211
	1917	38	10,190	2,654	12,844	210,184	118,362
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1913	11	6,206	1,177	7,383	273,342	121,864
	1914	17	823	719	1,542	52,674	26,717
	1915	22	2,723	681	3,404	95,836	51,761
	1916	32	19,348	3,207	22,555	644,960	402,471
	1917	49	45,338	1,823	47,161	1,615,954	821,402
8 weeks and over	1913	12	889	336	1,225	153,211	67,632
	1914	14	3,807	3,912	7,719	724,259	365,545
	1915	15	1,734	560	2,294	194,187	100,829
	1916	33	3,755	1,705	5,460	498,567	259,928
	1917	26	44,620	2,611	47,231	2,598,209	1,542,412
Total	1913	208	33,493	16,790	50,283	623,528	287,739
	1914	337	43,073	27,976	71,049	1,090,395	551,228
	1915	358	57,005	24,287	81,292	583,225	299,633
	1916	508	128,546	42,137	170,683	1,678,930	967,604
	1917	444	154,061	19,909	173,970	4,599,658	2,594,808

It will be seen from the above table that disputes lasting for one day or less were the most frequent during each of the years for which figures are furnished. In the year 1917, stoppages of one day or less represented nearly 36 per cent. of the total number, while 61 per cent. of the stoppages during the year were terminated in less than one week. The disputes which continued for four weeks or over represented 17 per cent. of the total number of dislocations recorded, were responsible for 92 per cent. of the total number of working days lost, and were the cause of 91 per cent. of the estimated loss in wages during the year.

(ii.) *Duration of Industrial Disputes in each State and Territory.*—In the following tables particulars are given for each State and Territory of the number of disputes which commenced during the year 1917, and relative information, classified according to the adopted limits of duration. Comparative particulars for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 5, for the years 1914 and 1915 in Labour Report No. 6, and for the year 1916 in Labour Report No. 7.

Duration of Industrial Disputes in each State and Territory, 1917.

Limits of Duration.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wlth.
NO. OF DISPUTES.								
1 day and less	136	6	6	3	6	..	1	158
2 days and more than 1 day	32	2	8	2	2	1	..	47
3 days and more than 2 days	18	4	4	1	2	..	..	29
Over 3 days & less than 1 wk	22	6	4	6	1	..	..	39
1 week and less than 2 weeks	29	11	7	6	4	1	..	58
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	21	6	4	1	3	3	..	38
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	28	6	3	3	5	3	1	49
8 weeks and over	10	11	3	2	..	..	..	26
Total	296	52	39	24	23	8	2	444

NO. OF WORKPEOPLE AFFECTED.

1 day and less	33,207	1,041	379	291	485	..	60	35,463
2 days and more than 1 day	7,335	126	1,641	90	247	37	..	9,476
3 days and more than 2 days	3,979	192	491	64	70	..	..	4,796
Over 3 days & less than 1 wk	3,668	536	1,091	992	40	..	..	6,327
1 week and less than 2 weeks	6,623	1,154	671	1,458	728	38	..	10,672
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	4,485	1,850	5,361	52	32	1,064	..	12,844
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	39,373	4,870	61	950	1,346	546	15	47,161
8 weeks and over	35,353	8,321	3,350	207	..	..	..	47,231
Total	134,023	18,090	13,045	4,104	2,948	1,685	75	173,970

NO. OF WORKING DAYS LOST.

1 day and less	33,151	1,008	317	115	414	..	60	35,065
2 days and more than 1 day	14,635	252	3,282	180	494	74	..	18,917
3 days and more than 2 days	11,939	576	1,423	192	210	..	..	14,340
Over 3 days & less than 1 wk	15,161	2,579	4,664	4,568	160	..	..	27,132
1 week and less than 2 weeks	49,834	9,974	4,820	10,347	4,578	304	..	79,857
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	58,121	32,160	99,396	998	600	18,909	..	210,184
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1,284,976	172,850	2,197	26,500	95,622	33,254	555	1,615,954
8 weeks and over	1,841,052	541,011	201,600	14,546	..	..	..	2,598,209
Total	3,308,869	760,410	317,699	57,446	102,078	52,541	615	4,599,658

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1 day and less	25,595	556	217	62	253	..	50	26,733
2 days and more than 1 day	9,368	191	2,217	104	323	50	..	12,253
3 days and more than 2 days	8,135	297	730	140	140	..	..	9,442
Over 3 days & less than 1 wk	9,731	1,218	3,301	2,528	90	..	..	16,868
1 week and less than 2 weeks	29,801	5,322	3,271	5,682	3,100	160	..	47,336
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	27,782	16,572	65,132	500	344	8,032	..	118,362
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	652,416	88,245	1,257	14,000	48,754	16,260	470	821,402
8 weeks and over	1,166,577	266,545	102,000	7,290	..	..	..	1,542,412
Total	1,929,405	378,946	178,125	30,306	53,004	24,502	520	2,594,808

5. Causes of Industrial Disputes.—The object which is alleged (by the employers and on behalf of the employees) to have been the cause of a stoppage of work does not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention on either side. On occasions the alleged object is of a twofold character, in which case the claim which is fully or partially satisfied, and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, viz.:—(1) *Wages*; (2) *Hours of Labour*; (3) *Employment of Particular Classes or Persons*; (4) *Working Conditions*; (5) *Trade Unionism*; (6) *Sympathy*; and (7) *Other Causes*. The first five mentioned groups are subdivided in the following manner to meet varying phases of demands made under each of the main headings:—

Classification of Causes of Industrial Disputes.

1. *Wages.*

- (a) For increase.
- (b) Against decrease.
- (c) System of payment.
- (d) Readjustment of rates.
- (e) Other wage questions.

2. *Hours of Labour.*

- (a) For reduction.
- (b) Other questions concerning hours.

3. *Employment of Particular Classes or Persons.*

- (a) Employment of women instead of men.
- (b) Employment of apprentices.
- (c) For reinstatement of discharged employees.

- (d) Against employment of certain officials.
- (e) Other questions concerning employment.

4. *Working Conditions and Discipline.*

- (a) For change.
- (b) Against change.
- (c) Other.

5. *Trade Unionism.*

- (a) For closed shop—Employment of non-unionists.
- (b) Other union questions.

6. *Sympathy.*

7. *Other Causes.**

In the following tables particulars in respect of the number of industrial disputes recorded for the year 1917, the number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost are classified (under the adopted classification of causes) for each State and Territory in the Commonwealth:—

* "Other causes" has been adopted to meet various sets of circumstances, which mainly arise in connection with stoppages which are not concerted movements, and include among others the following:—(a) During the course of a meeting of miners, the wheelers return their horses to the stables and leave the colliery; (b) disputes (not necessarily connected with industrial matters that the employer can control) arise between wheelers and clippers or any two sets of workers, and sufficient workmen are not available to work the mine to its full capacity; (c) workmen abstain from work to attend the Police Court to hear prosecutions against certain other employees; (d) to witness some amusement, or (e) for other reasons which are subsequently ruled by the officials of the union to be either impracticable or against former decisions.

Causes of Industrial Disputes which commenced in the Year, 1917.

Causes of Disputes.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wlth.
NO. OF DISPUTES.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	17	14	8	6	5	1	2	53
(b) Against decrease ..	1	6	8	3	5	..	..	1
(c) Other wage questions ..	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
(b) Other disputes <i>re</i> hours ..	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	8
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of Non-unionists ..	11	4	4	2	2	3	..	26
(b) Other union questions ..	17	12	2	1	..	..	..	32
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	67	6	7	4	4	2	..	90
5. Working conditions ..	70	1	6	2	2	..	..	81
6. Sympathetic ..	43	3	2	4	3	2	..	57
7. Other causes ..	17	3	1	2	2	..	..	25
Total	296	52	39	24	23	8	2	444
NO. OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	2,708	790	1,993	327	222	1,020	75	7,135
(b) Against decrease ..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
(c) Other wage questions ..	12,463	1,109	3,653	999	670	..	..	18,894
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	..	4	1,000	..	..	..	..	1,004
(b) Other disputes <i>re</i> hours ..	1,841	735	..	..	..	..	..	2,576
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of Non-unionists ..	2,560	1,220	1,902	112	290	98	..	6,182
(b) Other union questions ..	9,547	7,384	360	29	..	..	..	17,320
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	13,693	591	514	272	308	67	..	15,445
5. Working conditions ..	17,630	400	753	181	57	..	..	19,021
6. Sympathetic ..	64,286	5,600	2,350	2,100	1,240	500	..	76,076
7. Other causes ..	9,274	257	520	84	161	..	..	10,296
Total	134,023	18,090	13,045	4,104	2,948	1,685	75	173,970
NO. OF WORKING DAYS LOST.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	11,830	5,786	10,483	7,066	1,943	18,360	615	56,083
(b) Against decrease ..	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
(c) Other wage questions ..	99,452	33,486	60,488	18,118	13,536	..	..	225,080
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	..	16	78,000	..	..	..	..	78,016
(b) Other disputes <i>re</i> hours ..	7,100	55,460	..	..	..	..	..	62,560
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of Non-unionists ..	22,023	24,060	38,105	1,238	1,520	654	..	87,600
(b) Other union questions ..	281,977	289,888	1,055	29	..	..	..	572,949
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	35,058	7,370	1,346	1,969	277	1,277	..	47,297
5. Working conditions ..	206,884	400	3,582	724	381	..	..	211,971
6. Sympathetic ..	262,818	343,400	123,600	28,100	84,260	32,250	..	3,239,798
7. Other causes ..	16,315	544	1,040	202	161	..	..	18,262
Total	330,886	760,410	317,699	57,446	102,078	52,541	615	4,599,658

Of the total number of disputes (444) which commenced during the year 1917, "Wage" questions were responsible for 123, of which number 53 were claims by the employees for increases. Eighty-one disputes occurred over "Working Conditions and Discipline," and 90 over the question of the "Employment of Particular Classes or Persons."

The majority of the latter disputes were caused by the refusal of requests for the reinstatement of discharged employees. Ten disputes arose over the question of "Hours of Labour," 58 on account of "Trade Unionism," and 57 were classed as "Sympathetic" disputes.

Disputes in 1917 over "Wage" questions were less numerous than during the previous year. In 1916 these disputes represented 45 per cent. of the total number, while in 1917 the percentage of stoppages of work caused by "Wage" questions was 28 per cent. The number of dislocations caused by the employment of non-unionists and the refusal of workpeople to handle "black" goods and coal was considerably higher than in previous years. The same remark also applies to "Sympathetic" stoppages. The majority of the disputes classified under these two headings were directly associated with the action of the railway employees at the Government workshops in New South Wales. No less than 76,076 workpeople, or 44 per cent. of the total number involved in all disputes, were implicated in "Sympathetic" stoppages during the year. The number of working days lost by these 76,076 workpeople was 3,239,798, or 70 per cent. of the total loss during the period under review. Disputes over "Trade Union" matters affected 23,502 workpeople, or nearly 14 per cent. of the total. These employees lost 660,549 working days, which number represents 12 per cent. of the total number of days lost.

6. Results of Industrial Disputes.—The terms or conditions (as between the parties involved in an industrial dispute) upon which a resumption of work is agreed, are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute. These terms or conditions when analysed in comparison with the alleged cause of the stoppage invariably come within one or other of the following four definitions, viz:—

- (a) In favour of workpeople.
- (b) In favour of employer.
- (c) Compromise.
- (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result:—(a) *In favour of workpeople*, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands or are substantially successful in obtaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (b) *In favour of employer*, when the demands of the employees are not conceded or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (c) *Compromise*, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or of resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (d) *Indefinite*, in other cases, such, for example, as those in which employees stop work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained, or in cases where a dispute arises in connection with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of "Sympathetic" disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance

with some concrete demand, are generally "Indefinite," except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which they might ultimately benefit.

In most instances the workpeople involved in "Sympathetic" disputes resume work on the conditions prevailing prior to the stoppage, so that so far as they are concerned no gain or loss has occurred. In many cases during the year 1917, however, workpeople, who ceased work in sympathy with the New South Wales Government Railways Workshops' employees, lost their employment, while others lost privileges and concessions which they enjoyed prior to the dislocation. Under the circumstances the results of these sympathetic stoppages have been classified as in favour of the employer.

(i.) *Industrial Disputes in Commonwealth classified according to Causes and Results, 1917.*—The following table shews the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes which commenced in a State or Territory of the Commonwealth during the year 1917, classified according to principal cause and result:—

Industrial Disputes, Classified according to Causes and Results, 1917.

CAUSE.	No. of Disputes.				No. of Workpeople involved in Disputes.				Total No. of Working Days Lost by Disputes.			
	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—												
(a) For increase—	24	20	9	..	3,482	2,668	985	..	15,727	33,428	6,928	..
(b) Against decrease ..	1	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	42	..	..	..
(c) Other wage questions ..	20	26	23	..	2,947	6,149	9,798	..	7,351	46,354	171,875	..
Hours of Labour—												
(a) For reduction ..	..	1	1	..	..	1,000	4	..	..	78,000	16	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1	4	3	..	750	968	858	..	6,000	977	55,583	..
Trade Unionism—												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	14	6	6	..	3,540	1,781	861	..	43,070	37,790	6,740	..
(b) Other union questions ..	5	23	4	..	1,232	15,943	145	..	3,390	568,234	1,325	..
Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..	41	25	23	1	6,027	5,307	3,649	462	13,322	15,871	16,718	1,386
Working Conditions ..	32	23	24	2	5,546	9,082	3,959	434	10,377	193,150	8,010	434
Sympathetic ..	1	53	2	1	40	75,606	400	30	160	3,224,778	14,800	60
Other Causes ..	8	7	5	5	746	1,085	1,651	6,814	3,828	3,399	3,608	7,427
TOTAL ..	147	188	100	9	24,331	119,589	22,810	7,740	103,267	420,1981	285,103	9,307

NOTE.—For corresponding particulars for 1913 see Labour Report No. 5, pp. 78-9; for 1914 and 1915, see Labour Report No. 6, p. 119; and for 1916, see Labour Report No. 7, p. 500.

(ii.) *Results of Industrial Disputes in each State, 1917.*—The following table shews for each State and Territory the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost through disputes which commenced during the year 1917, classified according to results:—

with some concrete demand, are generally "Indefinite," except when the stoppage is entered upon partially to enforce a demand in which they might ultimately benefit.

In most instances the workpeople involved in "Sympathetic" disputes resume work on the conditions prevailing prior to the stoppage, so that so far as they are concerned no gain or loss has occurred. In many cases during the year 1917, however, workpeople, who ceased work in sympathy with the New South Wales Government Railways Workshops' employees, lost their employment, while others lost privileges and concessions which they enjoyed prior to the dislocation. Under the circumstances the results of these sympathetic stoppages have been classified as in favour of the employer.

(i.) *Industrial Disputes in Commonwealth classified according to Causes and Results, 1917.*—The following table shews the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes which commenced in a State or Territory of the Commonwealth during the year 1917, classified according to principal cause and result:—

Industrial Disputes, Classified according to Causes and Results, 1917.

CAUSE.	No. of Disputes.			No. of Workpeople involved in Disputes.			Total No. of Working Days Lost by Disputes.			
	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	In Favour of Workpeople.	In Favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
Wages—										
(a) For increase	24	20	9	..	3,482	2,668	985	..	15,727	33,428
(b) Against decrease	1	..	..	..	21	..	..	42	..	..
(c) Other wage questions	20	26	23	..	2,947	6,149	9,798	..	7,351	46,354
Hours of Labour—										
(a) For reduction	..	1	1	..	..	1,000	4	..	..	78,000
(b) Other disputes re hours	1	4	3	..	750	968	858	..	6,000	977
Trade Unionism—										
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	14	6	6	..	3,540	1,781	861	..	43,070	37,790
(b) Other union questions	5	23	4	..	1,232	15,943	145	..	3,390	568,234
Employment of particular Classes or Persons										
Working Conditions	41	25	23	1	6,027	5,307	3,649	462	13,322	15,871
Sympathetic	32	23	24	2	5,546	9,082	3,959	434	10,377	193,150
Other Causes	1	53	2	1	40	75,606	400	30	160	3,224,778
TOTAL	147	188	100	9	24,331	119,589	22,310	7,740	103,267	4,201,981
										285,103
										9,307

NOTE.—For corresponding particulars for 1913 see Labour Report No. 5, pp. 78-9; for 1914 and 1915, see Labour Report No. 6, p. 119; and for 1916, see Labour Report No. 7, p. 500.

(ii.) *Results of Industrial Disputes in each State, 1917.*—The following table shews for each State and Territory the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost through disputes which commenced during the year 1917, classified according to results:—

Industrial Disputes in each State, Classified according to Results, 1917.

State or Territory.	No. of Disputes.				No. of Workpeople Involved in Disputes.			Total No. of Working Days lost by Disputes.				
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	92	131	64	9	17,042	94,897	14,344	7,740	43,393	315,088	106,086	9,307
Victoria	12	26	14	..	1,153	14,546	2,391	..	2,704	659,712	97,994	..
Queensland	20	9	10	..	4,528	3,874	4,643	..	49,043	205,250	63,406	..
South Australia	7	10	7	..	530	2,887	687	..	2,582	38,395	16,469	..
Western Australia	11	9	3	..	890	1,865	193	..	3,628	97,981	519	..
Tasmania	4	3	1	..	128	1,520	37	..	1,857	50,610	74	..
Northern Territory	1	..	1	..	60	..	15	..	60	..	555	..
Total, C'wealth	147	188	100	9	24,331	119,589	22,310	7,740	103,267	4201,981	285,103	9,307

In the above table it will be seen that 147 of the 444 disputes recorded during the year 1917 were classified as terminating in favour of the workpeople involved; 188 in favour of the employers, while 100 resulted in a compromise. In New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia the results were in favour of the employers, while in the remaining States and the Northern Territory the results favoured the employees. The effect of the unsuccessful dispute over the introduction of the "Card System" into the Government Railway Workshops in New South Wales is noticeable when the figures shewing the number of workpeople involved in disputes which resulted in favour of the employers is scrutinised. No less than 119,589 workpeople, or 69 per cent. of the total number, were involved in unsuccessful disputes during the year. The greater part of these employees were implicated in disputes which arose out of the trouble at the railway workshops.

7. Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes.—Methods of settlement, i.e., the means adopted, whereby the parties to an industrial dispute or their representatives are either brought into active negotiations or other steps are taken to bring about a termination of the dispute, and a consequent resumption of work, are very varied, but for the purposes of statistical classification may be confined within the following six main headings, viz. :—

- (i.) By negotiations.
- (ii.) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii.) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv.) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v.) By closing down establishment permanently.
- (vi.) By other methods.

The first three main headings are further divided as follows:—

- (i.) By negotiations—
 - (a) Direct negotiations between employers and employees or their representatives.
 - (b) By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party, not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act.
- (ii.) Under State Industrial Acts—
 - (a) By intervention, assistance, or compulsory conference.
 - (b) By reference to Board or Court.
- (iii.) Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—
 - (a) By intervention, assistance, or compulsory conference.
 - (b) By reference to Court.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action taken to arrive at a settlement of the issue or issues in an industrial dispute which involves a cessation of work. The sixth "Other Methods" is more or less indefinite, and synchronises with "Other Causes" and mainly relates to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, without any cause for the stoppages being necessarily made known officially to the management.

In the following tables the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, number of working days lost, and estimated loss in wages caused by industrial disputes commenced during the year, 1917, are classified for each State and Territory of the Commonwealth according to the adopted schedule of methods of settlement:—

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes Commenced in 1917.

Methods of Settlement.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wlth.
NO. OF DISPUTES.								
Negotiations—								
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	151	27	22	15	14	3	2	234
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	26	4	3	2	1	2	..	38
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	8	..	4	..	..	..	..	12
By reference to Board or Court	7	..	3	1	2	..	..	13
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	3
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out								
21	10	2	1	1	1	..	..	36
By Closing down Establishment permanently								
3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	4
By other Methods								
79	9	5	5	4	2	..	..	104
TOTAL	296	52	39	24	23	8	2	444

NO. OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

Negotiations—								
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	34,364	5,573	6,010	2,224	1,168	98	75	49,512
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	21,821	443	556	231	220	67	..	23,338
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	5,194	..	1,101	..	..	..	..	6,295
By reference to Board or Court	814	..	1,922	10	33	..	..	2,779
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	816	674	..	..	..	..	..	1,490
By Filling Places of Workpeople on Strike or Locked out								
9,420	7,745	49	100	16	450	..	..	17,780
By Closing down Establishment permanently								
308	..	..	..	126	..	..	..	434
By other Methods								
61,286	3,655	3,407	1,539	1,385	1,070	..	..	72,342
TOTAL	134,023	18,090	13,045	4,104	2,948	1,685	75	173,970

Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes commenced in 1917—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wlth.
NO. OF WORKING DAYS LOST.								
Negotiations—								
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	271,809	191,674	68,313	13,493	4,926	654	615	551,484
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	837,289	8,353	1,473	14,124	1,380	1,277	..	863,896
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	152,725	..	7,074	..	..	..	..	159,799
By reference to Board or Court	10,570	..	37,207	60	515	..	..	48,352
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	1,632	31,764	..	..	..	..	..	33,396
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out								
By Closing down Establishment permanently	460,032	411,211	1,837	5,800	16	29,700	..	908,596
By other Methods	556	..	..	..	10,836	..	..	11,392
TOTAL	1,574,256	117,408	201,795	23,969	84,405	20,910	..	2,022,743
TOTAL	3,308,869	760,410	317,699	57,446	102,078	52,541	615	4,599,658

ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.

Methods of Settlement.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Negotiations—								
Direct between employers and employees, or their representatives	137,597	94,433	43,625	7,416	3,435	322	520	287,348
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act	576,592	5,595	832	7,060	700	580	..	591,359
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	60,932	..	4,420	..	..	..	..	65,352
By reference to Board or Court	6,078	..	26,050	44	272	..	..	32,444
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference	683	17,650	..	..	..	..	..	18,333
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out								
By Closing down Establishment permanently	233,286	202,157	1,041	2,750	10	14,600	..	453,844
By other Methods	356	59,111	102,157	13,036	6,100	..	..	6,456
TOTAL	913,881	378,946	178,125	30,306	53,004	24,502	520	2,594,808

“ Direct negotiations ” between the representatives of employers and employees was the most popular method of settling disputes during the year 1917. Of the total number of disputes (444) no less than 234 were settled by that method. Thirty-eight stoppages were terminated by the intervention of a third party (not an official under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act); thirty-six were settled by filling the places of the employees on strike, while twenty-eight were terminated by intervention, assistance, or reference to Courts or Boards appointed

under Commonwealth or State Arbitration or Industrial Acts. One hundred and four disputes were classified as having been settled "By other methods." It must be mentioned that a large number of stoppages of work occur each year, principally at the collieries, without any cause for such stoppages being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without any negotiations for a settlement of the trouble which caused the stoppage.

SECTION XIII.—STATE FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

1. General.—In the following paragraphs, particulars are given of the operations of the various State Labour Bureaux. In Labour Report No. 6 (page 130), attention was drawn to the fact that the systems adopted in the several States for the registration of applications for work and from employers are not uniform, and that the comparisons which can be drawn from the figures shewing the results of the operations of these Bureaux are subject to certain limitations.

2. Applications and Positions Filled, 1913 to 1917.—The following table shews the total number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in the Commonwealth during the years 1913 to 1917.

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in the Commonwealth, during the Years 1913 to 1917.

Year.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	
1913	2,520	81,356	83,876	*321	*26,103	*26,424	35,312
1914	2,326	100,917	103,243	*1,017	*29,223	*30,240	37,365
1915	9,075	102,264	111,339	†370	†20,900	†21,270	39,069
1916	7,345	85,349	92,694	†1,758	†34,982	†36,740	42,384
1917	5,487	76,710	82,197	†994	†27,372	†28,366	36,657

* Exclusive of Victoria and South Australia, for which States particulars are not available.

† Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

During the year 1917 out of every 1000 applicants for work 446 obtained positions against 457 for the year 1916. The number of applicants for work was 11 per cent., and the number of positions filled 14 per cent. fewer, during the year 1917 than during 1916.

3. Applications and Positions Filled in each State during 1917.—The following table shews the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the year 1917:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different States, 1917.

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	
New South Wales . . .	19,689	19,689	111	12,065	12,176	9,256*	
Victoria . . .	1,850	12,271	14,121	†	†	3,895	
Queensland . . .	3,165	27,589	30,754	883	15,235	16,118	13,031*
South Australia . . .	403	8,896	9,299	†	†	5,485*	
Western Australia . . .	69	8,164	8,233	†	†	4,918	
Tasmania . . .	101	101	72	72	72	72	
Commonwealth . . .	5,487	76,710	82,197	†994	‡27,372	‡28,366	36,657

* Including persons who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution.

† Not available.

‡ Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia.

The following are the percentages of those applicants who obtained employment through the Bureaux in the various States:—New South Wales, 47, Victoria, 28, Queensland, 42, South Australia, 59, Western Australia, 60, and Tasmania, 71 per cent.

4. Applications and Positions Filled in Various Industrial Groups during 1917.—The following table furnishes particulars for the year 1917 of the operations of the Free Labour Bureaux, classified according to industrial groups:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different Industrial Groups, 1917.

Industrial Group.	Applications for Employment.			\$\$ Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.||
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc. . . .	421	1,197	1,618	16	498	514	605
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.* . . .	410	4,280	4,690	28	454	482	498
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	51	578	629	7	169	176	136
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . . .	5	259	264	24	352	376	170
V. Books, Printing, etc. . . .	35	217	252	..	81	81	66
VI. Other Manufacturing . . . .	..	473	473	30	327	357	316
VII. Building	261	7,665	7,926	2	1,929	1,931	2,062
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . . .	41	2,315	2,356	..	1,369	1,369	1,309
IX. Rail and Tram Services†	699	11,731	12,430	..	4,876	4,876	8,629
X. Other Land Transport . . . .	..	524	524	..	39	39	49
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.	4	152	156	..	42	42	20
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, etc.‡	944	8,802	9,746	189	3,187	3,376	5,465
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . . .	264	10,371	10,635	293	7,016	7,309	6,689
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous§	2,283	28,146	30,429	405	7,033	7,438	10,643
TOTAL	5,487	76,710	82,197	994	27,372	28,366	36,657
	**		**				

* Including railway and tramway workshops. † Excluding railway and tramway workshops, but including construction and maintenance of permanent way and works. ‡ Including horticultural, viticultural and gardening. § Excluding railway and tramway employees and labourers employed on railway and tramway construction and maintenance. || Including persons in New South Wales who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution. ¶ Exclusive of Western Australia. ** Inclusive of Western Australia. §§ Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Attention has already been drawn to the fact that there is considerable diversity in the nature and scope of the work ordinarily carried out by the Bureaux in the various States. For example, in some States in which certain Government Departments obtain workers from the Labour Bureaux, the number of workers is naturally larger in comparison with the number in the same groups in other States. Thus, of the positions filled in Group IX. (Rail and Tramway Services), 13 per cent. were filled in New South Wales, 41 per cent. in Queensland, 44 per cent. in South Australia, and 2 per cent. in Victoria, while in Western Australia only 29 and in Tasmania no positions were filled in this group. Practically the whole of the positions filled in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.) were in three States, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. Of the positions filled in this group, 5571, or 86 per cent., as against 5504, or 90 per cent. in 1916, were for female domestic workers, and the whole of these positions were filled in the three above-mentioned States, these being the only States which make special provisions for female workers.

5. Applications and Positions Filled during 1917, Males and Females.

—The following table gives particulars, for male and female workers separately, of the number of applications for employment, and from employers, and the number of positions filled during the year 1917:—

State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females, 1917.

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			* Applications from Employers.			Posi-tions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Year.	Received during Year.	Total.	
Males	5,246	66,683	71,929	687	20,797	21,484	30,431
Females	241	10,027	10,268	307	6,575	6,882	6,226
TOTAL	5,487	76,710	82,197	994	27,372	28,366	36,657

* Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Of the total number of registrations for employment during the year 1917, 71,929, or 87.5 per cent. (against 89.5 per cent. in 1916) were made by males, and 10,268 or 12.5 per cent. by females. The number of positions filled for males was 30,431, or 83 per cent. (against 85.5 per cent. in 1916), and for females, 6226, or 17 per cent.

For every 1000 applications for employment from male workers, 423 positions were filled in 1917, as against 437 in 1916, while for every 1000 applications from female workers, 606 were filled, as against 630 in 1916.

SECTION XIV.—ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

1. **General.**—The following table shews the total number of immigrants, the cost of whose passage was wholly or partly defrayed by the State Governments, up to the end of the year 1909, and the number arriving in each year since that date:—

Commonwealth.—Number of Assisted, Selected, or Nominated Immigrants to the End of the Year 1917.

Particulars.	To end to 1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	Total.
No. of Immigrants	669,885	16,781	39,796	46,712	37,445	20,805	5,796	1,397	504	839,121

During the seven years 1911 to 1917, inclusive, the average number of assisted immigrants was 21,780 per annum. During the year 1917 a total number of 572 arrived, as against 1397 for the preceding year, a reduction of 63.4 per cent. The number of immigrants arriving during 1917 was 92.6 per cent. below the average for the seven years 1911 to 1917.

2. **Number of Assisted Immigrants arriving in each State, 1917.**—The following table shews the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in each State during the year 1917:—

Assisted Immigrants.—Number arriving in each State, 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	C'wealth.
Selected	11	24	31	..	..	..	66
Nominated	228	122	60	..	26	2	438
Total	239	146	91	..	26	2	504

During the year 1916, the total number of selected immigrants arriving in the Commonwealth was 263, and of nominated immigrants 1134, hence the 1917 figures for the former shew a reduction of 75.3 per cent., and for the latter of 60.6 per cent.

3. **Number of Assisted Immigrants, classified in Industrial Groups, 1917.**—In the following table particulars are given of selected and nominated immigrants of each sex, classified according to industrial groups, dependants being specified separately:—

Assisted Immigrants.—Classified according to Sex and Industrial Group, 1917.

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	SELECTED.			NOMINATED.		
	Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..
II. Engineering, Metals, etc.	..	..	..	2	..	2
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.	..	..	..	1	1	2
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.	..	..	..	1	13	14
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..
VI. Other Manufacturing	..	..	..	..	1	1
VII. Building	..	..	..	3	..	3
VIII. Mining	..	..	..	..	..	..
IX. Rail and Tramway Services	..	..	..	1	..	1
X. Other Land Transport	..	..	..	..	..	..
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.	*17	..	17	3	4	7
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	..	34	34	1	55	56
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	..	..	..	9	24	33
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous	..	..	..	14	134	148
Dependants, Adults	1	6	7	..	..	..
,, Children under 12 years	6	2	8	86	85	171
TOTAL	..	24	42	66	121	317
						438

* Including 6 "Dreadnought Boys," arriving in New South Wales.

The following are some details as to the numbers and proportions of the various classes, etc., of assisted immigrants during the year 1917:—

Total number of Assisted Immigrants	..	..	..	..	..	504
Number of Dependants	..	..	..	..	..	334
Percentage of Dependants	..	..	..	..	..	66.3%
*Number of Adult Workers, Selected Males	..	..	..	..	..	17
,, ,, Females	..	..	..	..	..	34
,, ,, Nominated Males	..	..	..	..	..	21
,, ,, Females	..	..	..	..	..	98
*Number of Selected Adult Male Workers in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	17
*Percentage of Selected Adult Male Workers in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	100.0%
Number of Selected Adult Female Workers in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	34
Percentage of Selected Adult Female Workers in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	100.0%
Number of Nominated Adult Male Workers in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	3
Percentage of Nominated Adult Male Workers in Group XII. (Agricultural, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	14.3%
Number of Nominated Adult Female Workers in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	55
Percentage of Nominated Adult Female Workers in Group XIII. (Domestic, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	56.1%

* Including "Dreadnought Boys."

SECTION XV.—INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

1. **Scope of Investigations.**—The various districts from which returns of industrial accidents were received during the year 1917 are the same as those from which similar information was furnished during preceding years. These districts are tabulated on page 135 of Labour Report No. 6, and need not be recapitulated.

2. **Number of Accidents Reported during Years 1913 to 1917.**—The following table shows the number of accidents which were reported in each State during the years 1913 to 1917:—

Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in each State during the Years 1913 to 1917.

	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
No. of Fatal Accidents	1913	82	24	33	5	34	7	185
	1914	61	26	25	3	31	13	159
	1915	53	23	17	9	31	11	144
	1916	52	18	12	8	21	3	114
	1917	39	15	24	4	18	5	105
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1913	3,427	308	286	117	813	79	5,030
	1914	3,238	367	384	84	763	76	4,912
	1915	2,811	401	517	97	980	77	4,883
	1916	2,894	427	428	152	885	76	4,862
	1917	*	408	502	295	885	78	2,168†

* Owing to the repeal of the Miners' Accident Relief Act, particulars as to non-fatal mining accidents in New South Wales are not available.

† Exclusive of New South Wales.

The total number of fatal accidents for the year 1917 was 105, as against 114 for the preceding year, a decrease of 7.9 per cent. There was a decrease amounting to 25.0 per cent. in New South Wales, 16.6 per cent. in Victoria, 50.0 per cent. in South Australia, 14.3 per cent. in Western Australia, while there was an increase of 100.0 per cent. in Queensland, and of 66.6 per cent. in Tasmania.

As regards non-fatal accidents the number exclusive of New South Wales was 11 per cent. greater in 1917 than in 1916. There was a decrease of 4.5 per cent. in Victoria, and increases of 17.3 per cent. in Queensland, of 94.1 per cent. in South Australia, and of 2.6 per cent. in Tasmania, while in Western Australia the number remained stationary.

3. Number of Accidents Reported during the Four Quarters of 1917.—The following table shews the number of accidents which were reported in each State during the four quarters of 1917:—

Industrial Accidents. Number Reported in each State during the Four Quarters of 1917.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C wth	
No. of Fatal Accidents	1st Quarter	15	2	6	..	5	3	31
	2nd ,,,	7	5	3	2	4	..	21
	3rd ,,,	11	3	7	1	4	..	26
	4th ,,,	6	5	8	1	5	2	27
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days	1st Quarter	753	112	85	58	168	13	1,189
	2nd ,,,	812	112	136	61	207	19	1,347
	3rd ,,,	*	94	147	101	257	24	623+
	4th ,,,	*	90	134	75	253	*22	574†

* Owing to the repeal of the Miners' Accident Relief Act, particulars as to non-fatal mining accidents in New South Wales are not available. † Exclusive of New South Wales.

4. Number of Accidents Reported in each Industrial Group during the year 1917.—The following table gives similar particulars regarding accidents in various industrial groups:—

Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in various Industrial Groups during the year 1917.

Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitated for over 14 days.	Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incapacitated for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	7	314	VII. Building and Scaffolding	..	..
II. Engineering, etc. . .	4	316	VIII. Mining	79	1,449*
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	..	179	IX. Lifts	1	12
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	3	114	X. Miscellaneous	3	25
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	108			
VI. Other Manufacturing	8	160	TOTAL	105	2,685*

* Exclusive of Mining accidents in New South Wales.

The largest number of accidents occurred in the mining industry, 79, or 75 per cent. of the fatal accidents having occurred in that industry in 1917.

5. Mining Accidents.—Sources of Information.—The particulars regarding mining accidents in the different States are obtained from various sources, a brief summary of which follows:—(a) *New South Wales*.—Returns of all accidents to persons employed in or about mines were formerly furnished by the Secretary of the Miners' Accident

Relief Board, but details of fatal accidents are now supplied by the Mines Department. The Chief Inspector of Factories also furnishes returns of accidents occurring in smelting works (other than those directly connected with mines), which are registered as factories. (b) *Victoria*.—Returns of accidents are furnished by the Mines Department, with the exception of those occurring in a few metallurgical works, which are registered as factories, and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspector of Factories. (c) *Queensland*.—In this State returns are furnished by the Chief Inspector of Mines. (d) *South Australia*.—All particulars as to accidents in and about mines are furnished by the Chief Registrar of Mines. (e) *Western Australia*.—The State Mining Engineer sends particulars, and in cases of accidents occurring with machinery or boilers, the Chief Inspector of Machinery also furnishes returns. (f) *Tasmania*.—All information is obtained from the Chief Inspector of Mines.

6. **Classification of Mining Accidents.**—In the following tables are given particulars of mining accidents occurring in each State during the year 1917, shewing in which class of mining (metalliferous or coal) they occurred, also the causes of such accidents:—

Mining Accidents.—Classification according to Causes in each State, 1917.*

A.—Fatal Accidents.

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
(a) METALLIFEROUS MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	3
" " Falls of Ground ..	1	3	2	1	9	2	18
" " Falling down ..	2	..	..	1	1	..	4
" " Shafts, etc. ..	3	2	3	..	3	1	12
Other Accidents .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
Other Accidents	1	..	3	..	1	..	5
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc.— .. .. ..	..	..	1	2	1	1	5
(b) COAL MINES.							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents	18	3	4	..	..	..	25
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Accidents	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
TOTAL	34	8	13	4	16	4	79

* The figures relating to Mining accidents do not in all cases correspond with those published by the Mines Departments of the various States, the discrepancies being due partly to the fact that accidents occurring in certain metallurgical works are not included in the figures issued by the Mines Department, and partly to the fact that there is apparently lack of uniformity in the nature of the non-fatal accidents reported to, and by, the various authorities.

Mining Accidents.—Classification according to Causes—*continued.*

B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 Days.

Cause of Accident.	*	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
(a) METALLIFEROUS MINES.								
1. Below Ground—								
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	..	1	1	1	1	7	2	12
" " Falls of Ground ..	..	6	10	4	66	3	89	
" " Falling Down ..	..	1	2	..	25	8	36	
" " Shafts, etc. ..	..	..	101	1	413	15	530	
Other Accidents .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Above Ground—								
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion ..	..	3	..	..	..	25	..	28
Other Accidents .. .. ..	..	4	14	..	122	24	164	
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. .. .. ..	..	1	135	167	84	7	394	
(b) COAL MINES.								
1. Below Ground—								
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	4
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) ..	..	2	..	..	19	..	..	21
Other Accidents .. .. ..	..	37	14	..	86	2	..	139
2. Above Ground—								
Accidents caused by Machinery in Motion ..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	10
Other Accidents .. .. ..	..	2	4	..	16	..	..	22
TOTAL .. .. .. ..	..	69	283	173	863	61	1,449	

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that in 1917, 49 of the fatal, and 1253 of the non-fatal accidents occurred in connection with metalliferous mining, as against 30 fatal and 196 non-fatal accidents in connection with coal mining.

The number of accidents occurring below ground in 1917 was considerably larger than that occurring above ground, the respective figures for the year being 62 fatal and 831 non-fatal accidents below ground, and 17 fatal and 618 non-fatal accidents above ground.

7. Number of Accidents per 1000 Persons Employed in Mining.—In the following table particulars are given for the year 1916 of the number of persons who met with accidents per 1000 persons employed. Comparative figures for 1917 are not yet available.

Number of Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents per 1000 Persons Engaged in Mining, 1916.

STATE.	FATAL ACCIDENTS.		NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS.		ALL ACCIDENTS.	
	Metal Mining.	Coal Mining.	Metal Mining.	Coal Mining.	Fatal.	Non-fatal.
New South Wales ..	1.80	0.83	70.64	79.21	1.27	75.26
Victoria ..	0.87	..	2.32	20.30	0.73	5.23
Queensland ..	1.43	..	33.67	10.31	1.11	28.41
South Australia ..	1.43	..	0.36	1.43	1.43	0.36
Western Australia ..	1.87	..	75.70	189.96	1.79	80.62
Tasmania	0.27	..	15.15	11.98	0.27	15.01
COMMONWEALTH ..	1.47	0.67	46.62	70.74	1.22	54.25

* Not available.

† Exclusive of New South Wales.

SECTION XVI.—INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STATISTICS.

1. **General.**—The particulars given in this section embody the most recent information available for various countries in regard to—(i) Trade Unionism, (ii.) Unemployment, (iii.) Price-indexes, and (iv.) Industrial Disputes. As explained in the following paragraphs, any comparisons which can be made between the various countries are subject to certain limitations, inasmuch as there is ordinarily a considerable lack of uniformity in the methods adopted for collection, and in the field covered by the returns. It is now becoming more widely recognised that in certain questions of this nature—such for example as variations in prices and unemployment—underlying causes and events in one country are reflected in other countries, and that these questions can be studied adequately only on an international basis. Hence it follows that a greater degree of co-ordination in these matters is necessary before any wholly satisfactory examination can be made as to industrial activity and economic conditions, either relative or absolute. In this connection the efforts of the International Unemployment Association and the proposals for an International Commission to investigate the question of prices and cost of living may be mentioned.

In addition, tables are shewn giving index-numbers in July 1917 of (i.) Wholesale Prices; (ii.) Retail Prices, and (iii.) Prices of various commodities in different countries, taking the prices in July 1914 as base (= 1000).

2. **Trade Unions.**—Owing to the war, later figures regarding the number of Trade Unionists in various countries than those published in Report No. 7, are not available; the table is therefore omitted.

3. **Unemployment.**—While trade union unemployed percentages are collected in a number of countries, owing to the lack of uniformity in regard to methods of collection and presentation, the results cannot be *directly* used for the purpose of comparing the state of employment in different countries. Some of the statistical objections to such comparisons may be summarised as follows*:

(i.) The disproportionate manner in which the various trades are represented. For example, in some countries specially large representation is given to trades which are characterised by violent fluctuations in employment.

(ii.) In some countries the returns are, and in others they are not, confined to unions paying unemployment benefit.

(iii.) Where the returns are so confined, they are not free from the liability to understate the number unemployed, by the exclusion of those who have either not qualified for, or who have run out of, benefit.

(iv.) The percentages of unemployment are materially affected by the age distribution of persons included.

Notwithstanding these objections to *direct* international comparisons of unemployment, it is stated in the report referred to above that ". . . the movements of each set of figures over a period of time furnish a fairly good indication of the fluctuation of employment in each country, any imperfections in the records being of a more or less constant character."

* See "Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics," Board of Trade, London (Cd. 5415), 1911.

In order to shew the relative increase or decrease in unemployment from year to year in various countries the following table has been prepared. It must, however, be borne in mind that, for the reasons already indicated, direct comparisons as to actual percentages unemployed at any given time cannot be made between the various countries.

Percentage of Numbers of Trade Unionists Returned as Unemployed, 1909 to 1916.
(Results not comparable for various Countries. See above.)

Country.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Australia ..	5.8	5.6	4.7	5.5	5.3	11.0	6.8	6.7
Austria ..	§	§	§	§	§	8.1	4.4	§
Belgium ..	3.4	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.7	§	§	§
Denmark ..	13.3	11.3	9.2	7.6	7.5	9.9	7.7	4.8
France ..	8.1	6.5	6.2	6.1	5.2	§	§	§
Germany*† ..	2.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.9	7.2	3.2	2.2
Great Britain*†	7.7	4.7	3.0	3.2	2.1	3.3	1.1	0.4
Holland ..	§	§	2.5	4.0	5.0	13.8	12.0	5.8
Norway ..	5.0	2.9	1.9	1.3	1.6	2.0	2.5	0.9
Sweden ..	§	§	§	5.4	4.5	6.7	7.8	4.2
U.S.A. N. York†	23.5	16.9	21.9	18.6	20.8	25.6	30.7	18.7
U.S.A. Massachusetts	5.6	5.5	5.3	4.5	5.8	9.9	7.0	2.4

* Returns relate solely to unions paying unemployed benefit. † Year ending 30th June. § Not available.

NOTE.—Although these percentages are not directly comparable (for reasons already indicated), as between the several countries, the variations are informative.

The above figures disclose the fact that there was a general similarity between the trend of unemployment in the various countries. In 1908-9, following on the financial crisis in America, unemployment was higher in all countries than during any period under review except 1914. The percentage of unemployment was lower in 1916 than in 1915 in every country for which figures are available.

4. Industrial Disputes.—The statistics of trade disputes given in this paragraph are summarised from reports issued by Government Labour Bureaux, but there is considerable difference in the methods adopted for the collection of these statistics. On the Continent of Europe they embrace all disputes, irrespective of their extent, except in the case of Austria, where disputes affecting fewer than ten persons are disregarded. In Canada all disputes affecting less than six employees or lasting less than twenty-four hours are excluded. In Massachusetts strikes lasting less than one day are omitted. In the United Kingdom, however, the method has been adopted of excluding disputes involving fewer than ten persons, or lasting less than one day, unless their aggregate duration exceeds 100 working days. In Australia the method is the same as in the United Kingdom, with the exception that all disputes involving an aggregate loss of 10 days or more are included. It has been found that the exclusion of such disputes does not materially affect the results shewing the total number of working days and the total amount of wages lost, while their inclusion would greatly increase the labour involved in the collection of the statistics. Similarly, there is a great diversity in the methods adopted in the various countries for determining the number of persons affected by a dispute. It is obvious that to the extent to which that diversity prevails the estimates of the aggregate amount of time lost will be affected. The

different methods, both of collecting and presenting the statistics of disputes, make it impossible to draw safe conclusions as to the frequency of industrial disputes in different countries. The fact most essential to any useful international comparison of statistics of trade disputes is the aggregate number of working days lost, but, unfortunately, on this point the information is very incomplete. The following table shews, however, the number of industrial disputes and the number of persons returned as being affected thereby in different countries for the years 1909 to 1916. The collection of these statistics for the Commonwealth was only begun as from the 1st January, 1913.

Industrial Disputes in various Countries, 1909 to 1916.

(NOTE.—*For reasons indicated on page 152, direct comparisons between the several Countries cannot be made.*)

Country.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Number of Disputes.								
Australia ..	§ 138	§ 298	§ 102	§ 99	208	337	358	508
Argentine ..	609	676	728	801	461	278	64	80
Austria ..	123	110	162	206	167	§	40	§
Belgium ..	69	84	99	150	113	44	43	75
Canada ..	65	71	52	64	74	44	43	75
Denmark ..	51	54	51	59	70	37	§	§
Finland ..	1,025	1,502	1,471	1,116	1,073	672	98	314
France ..	1,652	3,228	2,798	2,834	2,464	1,223	141	240
Germany ..	436	531	903	857	1,497	999	706	525
United Kingdom ..	189	146	217	283	427	271	268	374
Holland ..	1,095	1,118	1,274	1,116	929	740	506	480
Spain ..	170	269	338	311	201	262	226	262
Sweden ..	138	76	98	116	119	115	80	227
New York* ..	176	250	215	184	268	124	§	§
Massachusetts ..	183	242	222	294	§	§	§	§
United States ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,204	1,593	3,265

Number of Workers Affected (,000 omitted).

Australia ..	§ 5	§ 19	§ 28	§ 9	50	71	81	171
Argentine ..	80	75	128	145	62	40	§	§
Austria ..	15	27	57	77	29	§	8	§
Belgium ..	17	21	30	41	40	9	9	21
Canada ..	2	2	29	4	9	3	2	14
Denmark ..	4	4	6	11	6	6	§	§
Finland ..	167	281	231	268	220	161	19	41
France ..	120	370	356	481	311	95	13	124
Germany ..	301	515	962	1,463	689	449	453	268
United Kingdom ..	6	4	20	22	30	15	13	17
Holland ..	201	199	403	253	486	145	115	86
Italy ..	7	36	22	23	84	80	56	75
Spain ..	302	4	21	10	10	14	5	21
Sweden ..	53	190	84	57	304	61	§	§
New York* ..	22	27	17	95	§	§	§	§
Massachusetts ..	..	..	..	..	..	§	§	§
United States ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Year ending Sept. 30.

§ Not available.

5. Price Index - Numbers in various Countries.—(i.) *Wholesale Prices.*—In several of the more important countries of the world, index-numbers have been computed on some system for a number of years. It is, therefore, possible to make some comparisons between the course

of prices in Australia and other countries, but such comparisons are subject, however, to certain qualifications, inasmuch as there is no uniformity either in the list of commodities included or in the methods adopted for the collection of the data. Moreover, the methods and technique adopted in the computation of the index-numbers in some of the other countries is ordinarily far from satisfactory, and the results obtained are of limited accuracy, and are not reversible. This lack of reversibility becomes of special importance when it is desired to compare the various index-numbers by taking a common period as the base period throughout, as in the present case. For the index-numbers in different countries being originally computed with various periods or years as base, their reduction to a common period or year as base does not give the same results as would have been obtained had they been originally computed with the common period as base.

In spite of the foregoing objections, the index-numbers computed for the various countries may, for the most part, be taken as *roughly* indicating the general trend of prices and the general relative price levels at different periods. At any point they may really be subject to appreciable correction compared with the results which would have been obtained if deduced from properly weighted data.

In Labour Reports Nos. 2 and 6, index-numbers of Wholesale Prices in Germany and Italy were given for the years 1901 to 1912. These index-numbers are now omitted, for the reason that they were computed for the purposes of special investigations which have not been continued.

In the following table price index-numbers are shewn for the United Kingdom, France, Holland, the United States, Canada, Japan, and Australia. The index-numbers have in each case been computed with the year 1911 as base (= 1000). In making any comparisons between the results it must, of course, be understood that the figures do not in any way shew the relative prices in different countries, but that they merely exhibit the fluctuations in price-level, taking the prices in 1911 as base (= 1000) in each country separately.

Index-Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Australia and other Countries, 1901 to 1917, with Prices in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	United Kingdom.		France.	Holland.	United States.	Canada.	Japan.	Australia	
Index No.	Board of Trade.	Economist.	Sauerbeck and Statist.	Statistique Générale.	Contract Prices.	Bureau of Labour.	Department of Labour.	Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.
No. of Items.	45	22	39	45	9	236	271	47	92
1901	883	891	875	841	850	833	840	*	974
1902	881	874	862	821	829	840	856	*	1,051
1903	886	904	862	845	827	840	867		1,049
1904	898	856	875	833	911	906	874	844	890
1905	892	887	900	870	900	840	893	919	910
1906	921	952	987	917	912	927	942	914	948
1907	969	1,047	1,000	963	879	989	991	990	1,021
1908	941	921	912	891	954	958	949	969	1,115
1909	952	952	925	896	947	1,021	956	1,018	993
1910	995	978	975	958	957	1,052	975	952	1,000
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,050	1,067	1,062	1,035	980	1,062	1,055	1,052	1,170
1913	1,065	1,052	1,062	1,021	969	1,052	1,064	1,052	1,088
1914	1,071	1,045	1,062	1,042	926	1,042	1,068	986	1,149
1915	1,315	1,303	1,350	1,428	1,161	1,052	1,162	941	1,604
1916	1,705	1,699	1,700	1,922	1,345	1,302	1,429	961	1,504
1917	2,220	2,161	2,175	..	..	..	1,853	..	1,662

Since 1901, there has been a marked increase in prices in all the countries for which index-numbers are available. Of those countries for which particulars are available for 1917, the increase compared with 1901 is greatest in the United Kingdom (151.4 per cent.), followed by Canada (70.5 per cent.), and Australia (70.6 per cent.). In the other countries the index-numbers for the year 1916 shew increases on those for 1911.

In the following table the index-numbers for the month of July (the month previous to the outbreak of war) in the years 1914 and 1917 are given for the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States, and Australia, the prices in July, 1914, being taken as base (= 1000).

Index-Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Australia and other Countries, July 1914 and July 1917, with Prices in July 1914 as Base (=1,000).

Country.	Source of Information.	No. of Commodities.	INDEX-NUMBERS.	
			July 1914.	July 1917.
United Kingdom ..	Economist.	44	1,000	2,175
	Statist.	45	1,000	2,147
Canada	Department of Labour.	271	1,000	1,802
United States ..	Bureau of Labour.	26	1,000	1,420
Australia	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	92	1,000	1,441

It will be seen that the largest increase in wholesale prices occurred in the United Kingdom, followed in the order named by Canada, Australia, and the United States.

(ii.) *Retail Prices.*—The rise in the general level of prices and in cost of living in recent years appears to have been world-wide. What has been said with regard to uniformity and methods adopted in the computation of wholesale price index-numbers applies with equal weight to retail price index-numbers in other countries. In several of the more important countries of the world index-numbers have been computed to shew the variation in the retail prices of various articles of food. Owing to the war, retail price index-numbers for Austria, Belgium, and Germany are not available since 1912, and those countries are therefore omitted, but on the other hand, retail price index-numbers for Canada and Norway are included. The index-numbers are shewn in the following table:—

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Australia and other Countries, 1901 to 1917, with Prices in 1911 as Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Holland.	Norway.	United States.	Australia.	New Zealand.
Index No.	Board of Trade.	Department of Labour.	Dutch Bureau of Statistics.	Labour Office.	Bureau of Labour.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Government Statistician.
No. of Items.	45	29	29	27	15	46	*
1901	918	*	861	*	758	880	*
1902	923	*	861	*	801	929	*
1903	940	*	869	*	802	910	*
1904	937	*	879	*	813	858	*
1905	940	*	861	*	814	901	*
1906	932	*	869	*	841	902	*
1907	961	*	897	*	880	897	*
1908	983	*	930	*	910	951	1,011
1909	984	*	940	*	959	948	989
1910	1,000	975	983	*	1,008	970	1,008
1911	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912	1,048	1,029	1,035	1,080	1,067	1,101	1,035
1913	1,050	1,029	991	1,140	1,089	1,104	1,055
1914	1,068	1,084	1,009	1,150	1,122	1,140	1,117
1915	1,359	1,103	1,225	1,350	1,111	1,278	1,217
1916	1,691	1,478	1,452	1,909	1,244	1,324	1,290
1917 .. .. ..	..	1,920	..	..	..	1,318	1,384

* Not available.

The rise in retail prices was most marked in 1916; in the United Kingdom prices were 24.4 per cent. higher in 1916 than in 1915, in Australia 3.6 per cent., in Canada 33.1 per cent., in Holland 18.5 per cent., in Norway 41.4 per cent., in the United States 12.0 per cent., and in New Zealand 6.0 per cent.

In the following table the retail index-numbers for the months of July 1914 and July 1917 in various countries are given, taking the prices in July 1914 as base (= 1000). These figures relate to foodstuffs only, and are not comparable, as the list of commodities varies in each country. In nearly every case the index-numbers are based on weighted averages.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Australia and other Countries, July 1914 and July 1917, with Prices in July 1914 as Base (= 1000).

Country.	No. of Towns or Cities.	No. of Commodities.	INDEX-NUMBERS.	
			July 1914.	July 1917.
Australia	30	46†	1,000	1,263
Austria	Vienna.	18	1,000	2,732
Canada	60	29	1,000	1,566
Denmark	Copenhagen.	17	1,000	1,663
France	Paris	..	1,000	1,830
Iceland	Reykjavik	..	1,000	2,520
Italy	41	7	1,000	1,716
New Zealand	25	59	1,000	1,286
*Norway	21	33	1,000	2,611
Sweden	44	31	1,000	1,809
Switzerland	All Co-operative Societies.	31	1,000	1,920
United Kingdom	600	21	1,000	2,204
United States	45	17	1,000	1,460

* Unweighted average, including other necessaries. † Including a few commodities not foodstuffs.

The greatest rises have taken place in Vienna, where prices of food-stuffs were 173.2 per cent. higher in July 1917 than in July 1914. The smallest increase, 26.3 per cent., took place in Australia.

The fluctuations in price of various foodstuffs from July 1914 to July 1917 in different countries are given in the following table. In all cases the price of each commodity in each country in July 1914 is taken as base (= 1000).

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of various Commodities in different countries in July 1917. The Price of each Commodity in July 1914 being taken as Base (=1000).

COMMODITIES.	INDEX NUMBERS.												United States of America.	
	Australia, Melbourne.	Austria, Vienna.	Canada, 60 Towns.	Denmark, Copenhagen.	Germany, 51 Prussian Towns.	Holland, 6 Co.-op. Stores.	India, Calcutta.	Italy, 41 Towns.	New Zealand 4 Towns.	Norway, 21 Towns.	Sweden, 44 Towns.	Switzerland, Co-operative Societies.	United Kingdom.	
Flour, Wheaten	1,215	2,791	2,118	1,878	1,259	1,757	1,100	1,275	1,500	2,680	1,355	1,689	2,090	2,240
Rye	*	*	*	*	1,399	1,620	*	*	4,020	*	*	*	*	*
Bread, Wheaten	1,167	*	1,752	2,336	1,072	*	1,170	1,274	1,286	2,260	1,424	1,771	2,010	2,600
Rye	*	1,719	*	1,524	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,419	*	*	*
Potatoes	1,016	2,667	3,519	2,333	1,378	*	*	*	1,359	2,110	2,031	1,333	1,520	2,590
Peas	*	*	*	*	*	1,528	*	*	*	*	*	2,053	*	*
Beans	*	3,750	*	*	*	1,747	*	*	*	3,730	5,130	2,644	*	*
Onions	1,061	4,750	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Milk	1,158	1,206	1,025	1,427	1,756	*	*	1,392	1,186	1,820	1,600	1,391	1,600	2,260
Butter	1,249	4,125	1,485	1,521	2,243	*	*	*	1,347	1,995	1,609	1,680	1,705	2,340
Cheese	1,212	*	1,561	*	*	1,318	*	*	1,444	2,643	2,056	1,473	1,970	*
Margarine	*	6,000	*	1,544	*	1,242	*	*	*	1,885	*	*	1,670	*
Eggs	1,019	4,571	1,442	*	4,195	*	890	*	*	2,380	2,489	2,400	2,270	2,400
Lard	*	*	1,691	1,820	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,451	*	2,780
Bacon	1,288	*	1,560	*	*	*	2,315	1,435	*	2,117	*	1,830	2,570	
Beef	1,495	3,822	1,277	1,483	*	*	940	2,230	1,247	2,230	1,763	2,020	2,273	2,250
Mutton	1,482	*	1,382	*	*	*	940	*	1,369	2,370	1,912	1,892	2,415	*
Veal	*	2,733	*	845	*	*	*	*	*	2,470	*	1,661	*	*
Pork	1,253	2,322	1,481	*	*	*	*	*	*	2,455	*	1,983	*	2,420
Tea	1,182	*	1,237	*	*	1,220	1,190	*	1,053	*	*	1,447	1,750	*
Coffee	1,027	*	1,025	1,676	*	1,306	*	*	1,460	1,942	1,211	*	*	
Sugar	1,273	1,372	1,257	1,771	1,335	1,302	1,870	*	1,500	2,390	1,094	2,276	2,890	2,750
Rice	1,154	*	1,446	2,720	*	1,448	1,040	*	1,333	2,300	1,821	1,520	*	*
Petroleum	1,811	*	1,087	1,554	1,549	*	*	*	*	2,045	2,150	1,818	*	*
Coal	*	*	1,281	*	1,667	*	*	*	*	9,730	2,094	1,785	*	*
Coke	*	*	*	3,627	*	2,471	*	*	*	6,630	3,414	*	*	*

* Not available.
as base (= 1000).

† June 1917, the price of each commodity in June 1914 being taken

APPENDIX I.

Current Retail Prices in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1917.

Particulars.	Bread	Flour	Tea	Coffee	Sugar	Rice	Sago	Jam	Oat-meal	Raisins	Cur- ra- nts	Starch
Unit of Quantity	2 lbs.	25 lbs.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N.S. WALES												
Sydney ..	4.0	3	4.7	1	6.8	1	7.5	3.5	3.4	4.1	5.3	2.8
Newcastle ..	4.0	3	6.1	1	8.0	1	7.1	3.5	3.5	4.1	5.5	3.1
Broken Hill ..	4.0	3	8.4	1	7.9	1	8.3	4.0	4.7	5.1	5.4	3.1
Goulburn ..	4.0	3	3.1	1	7.6	1	6.9	3.7	3.8	4.4	5.6	3.0
Bathurst ..	4.0	3	5.9	1	7.6	1	9.0	3.7	3.7	4.4	5.8	3.3
Weighted Aver.	4.0	3	5.0	1	7.0	1	7.5	3.5	3.5	4.1	5.3	2.8
VICTORIA												
Melbourne ..	3.5	3	3.4	1	5.5	1	7.0	3.5	3.1	3.8	5.4	2.4
Ballarat ..	3.5	3	0.5	1	5.9	1	6.0	3.8	3.1	3.8	5.3	2.5
Bendigo ..	3.5	3	2.3	1	4.2	1	6.0	3.8	3.1	4.0	5.5	2.7
Geelong ..	3.5	3	3.8	1	4.2	1	5.6	3.5	3.1	3.9	5.3	2.5
Warrnambool ..	4.0	3	6.0	1	5.6	1	6.5	3.8	3.2	3.9	5.0	2.6
Weighted Aver.	3.5	3	3.2	1	5.4	1	6.8	3.5	3.1	3.8	5.4	2.5
QUEENSLAND												
Brisbane ..	3.9	3	8.2	1	7.9	1	8.6	3.5	3.2	3.8	5.3	2.8
Toowoomba ..	4.5	3	6.3	1	8.0	1	8.5	3.8	3.3	4.1	6.0	3.1
Rockhampt'n ..	4.5	3	11.2	1	8.8	1	7.0	3.5	3.1	3.9	5.5	3.1
Charters Towers ..	5.0	4	7.3	1	10.7	1	10.3	4.0	4.0	4.9	6.0	3.1
Warwick ..	4.5	3	5.0	1	8.7	1	6.3	3.9	3.2	4.2	6.0	3.1
Weighted Aver.	4.1	3	9.1	1	8.3	1	8.5	3.6	3.3	4.0	5.5	2.9
S. AUSTRALIA												
Adelaide ..	3.5	3	4.1	1	6.6	1	7.8	3.5	3.6	4.4	4.6	2.6
Moonta ..	4.0	3	2.6	1	6.6	1	7.7	3.5	3.7	4.5	4.8	2.8
Port Pirie ..	4.0	3	3.7	1	7.2	1	8.4	3.6	3.9	4.6	4.6	2.7
Mt. Gambier ..	4.0	3	4.6	1	6.4	1	9.8	3.5	3.4	4.4	5.0	2.4
Petersburg ..	4.0	3	2.4	1	8.2	1	8.9	3.8	3.9	4.5	5.0	2.9
Weighted Aver.	3.6	3	4.0	1	6.7	1	7.9	3.5	3.7	4.4	4.6	2.6
W. AUSTRALIA												
Perth ..	4.0	3	3.8	1	6.2	1	7.4	3.5	3.1	3.8	5.2	2.7
Kalgoorlie ..	4.5	3	8.4	1	9.8	1	11.1	4.2	4.1	5.0	6.4	3.0
Mid. Junction ..	4.4	3	5.5	1	8.2	1	6.8	3.5	3.1	3.8	5.4	2.9
Bunbury ..	4.5	3	4.0	1	6.7	1	7.8	3.8	3.0	4.0	5.4	2.9
Geraldton ..	4.5	3	5.3	1	9.6	1	5.2	4.0	3.3	4.4	5.7	3.1
Weighted Aver.	4.2	3	4.9	1	7.1	1	8.1	3.7	3.3	4.1	5.5	2.8
TASMANIA												
Hobart ..	3.6	3	5.3	1	5.4	1	6.0	3.5	3.3	4.1	4.9	2.4
Launceston ..	3.6	3	2.9	1	5.4	1	5.7	3.5	3.1	3.8	4.7	2.3
Zeehan ..	4.5	3	9.8	1	7.4	1	7.9	3.8	3.3	4.1	5.2	2.6
Beaconsfield ..	4.5	3	5.8	1	6.5	1	6.4	3.8	3.6	4.4	5.1	2.4
Queenstown ..	4.5	3	8.5	1	6.6	1	7.8	3.7	3.4	4.1	5.0	2.6
Weighted Aver.	3.7	3	5.0	1	5.6	1	6.1	3.6	3.2	4.0	4.9	2.4
Commonwealth												
Weighted Aver.	3.8	3	4.6	1	6.5	1	7.4	3.5	3.3	4.0	5.3	2.7
Weighted Aver.	3.8	3	4.6	1	6.5	1	7.4	3.5	3.3	4.0	5.3	2.7
Weighted Aver.	3.8	3	4.6	1	6.5	1	7.4	3.5	3.3	4.0	5.3	2.7

Current Retail Prices in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1917—Cont.

Particulars.	Blue.	C'ndles	Soap	Pota-toes.	Onions	Kero-sene.	Milk	Butter	Cheese	Eggs	Bacon Middle	Bacon Shoulder
Unit of Quantity	dz.sq.	per lb.	per lb.	14 lbs.	per lb.	gallon	quart	per lb.	per lb.	per dz.	per lb.	per lb.
N. S. WALES												
Sydney ..	10.0	9.1	3.9	1 5.4	2.1	1 10.7	5.7	1 6.7	1 0.5	1 8.6	1 4.3	0 11.8
Newcastle ..	10.8	9.3	4.2	1 4.2	2.0	1 11.5	5.6	1 6.9	1 1.0	1 8.3	1 3.8	1 1.1
Broken Hill ..	11.8	10.5	4.8	1 2.9	2.2	2 4.3	8.0	1 7.9	1 1.3	1 2.7	1 3.8	1 1.5
Goulburn ..	11.0	8.9	4.4	1 2.5	2.4	2 0.2	5.2	1 6.7	1 0.9	1 5.6	1 3.1	0 0.1
Bathurst ..	11.3	9.2	4.6	1 0.4	2.1	2 1.8	5.0	1 7.2	1 1.1	1 6.1	1 4.2	1 1.4
Weighted Aver.	10.1	9.2	4.0	1 5.1	2.1	1 11.0	5.7	1 6.7	1 0.6	1 8.3	1 4.2	1 0.0
VICTORIA												
Melbourne ..	9.4	9.2	4.7	0 10.3	1.6	1 10.6	5.4	1 6.2	1 1.4	1 5.3	1 4.3	0 11.8
Ballarat ..	9.0	8.8	4.2	0 8.0	1.5	1 11.6	5.0	1 5.9	1 0.0	1 2.5	1 4.1	1 0.3
Bendigo ..	8.9	9.5	3.7	0 10.6	1.6	1 11.9	5.4	1 6.9	1 0.4	1 2.0	1 3.0	0 10.9
Geelong ..	9.2	8.4	4.3	0 10.3	1.5	1 11.3	5.5	1 5.7	1 1.1	1 2.9	1 4.4	1 0.6
Warrnambool ..	9.6	8.7	3.6	0 7.3	1.4	1 10.9	4.7	1 6.6	1 0.6	1 1.1	1 3.4	0 11.7
Weighted Aver.	9.3	9.2	4.6	0 10.1	1.6	1 10.8	5.4	1 6.2	1 1.2	1 4.8	1 4.2	0 11.8
QUEENSLAND												
Brisbane ..	9.3	9.0	4.5	1 5.0	2.2	1 10.6	5.8	1 6.4	0 11.7	1 5.5	1 3.0	0 10.4
Toowoomba ..	10.3	9.6	4.2	1 3.2	2.1	2 1.8	4.8	1 6.4	0 11.4	1 1.9	1 2.1	0 10.9
Rockhampt'n ..	10.2	9.8	3.9	1 5.9	2.2	1 9.8	6.1	1 6.2	0 11.6	1 6.5	1 2.6	0 11.5
Charters Towers ..	11.0	11.3	4.2	2 1.1	2.9	2 2.8	5.8	1 8.4	1 1.3	2 0.6	1 3.6	1 1.1
Warwick ..	11.6	9.9	4.5	1 3.4	2.2	2 1.9	4.4	1 6.4	0 11.8	1 1.8	1 2.6	0 11.8
Weighted Aver.	9.7	9.4	4.4	1 5.6	2.2	1 11.3	5.7	1 6.5	0 11.8	1 5.7	1 2.9	0 10.8
S. AUSTRALIA												
Adelaide ..	10.2	9.6	4.4	0 11.6	1.8	2 0.4	5.3	1 6.6	1 0.3	1 1.0	1 2.5	0 11.3
Moonta ..	11.2	9.9	4.8	1 1.1	2.0	2 0.6	5.6	1 5.6	1 0.5	1 11.5	1 2.8	1 1.3
Port Pirie ..	11.7	10.0	4.5	1 0.9	2.1	2 3.0	5.6	1 5.2	1 0.5	1 1.5	1 2.5	1 0.7
Mt. Gambier ..	10.3	9.4	4.2	0 9.4	1.6	2 0.2	4.8	1 2.0	0 10.7	1 10.7	1 1.4	0 11.3
Petersburg ..	11.7	10.0	5.1	1 3.3	2.1	2 2.4	5.6	1 3.1	0 0.7	1 11.5	1 4.9	1 3.8
Weighted Aver.	10.4	9.6	4.4	0 11.7	1.9	2 0.6	5.3	1 6.3	1 0.3	1 0.8	1 2.5	0 11.6
W. AUSTRALIA												
Perth ..	10.6	9.8	3.8	1 7.2	2.3	1 10.2	6.4	1 8.2	1 1.2	1 5.2	1 4.2	0 10.8
Kalgoorlie ..	11.9	11.4	5.0	2 1.2	3.0	2 7.4	9.0	1 10.2	1 2.7	1 8.7	1 5.1	1 0.1
Mid. Junction ..	10.8	10.0	3.9	1 7.4	2.4	1 10.4	6.4	1 8.2	1 1.4	1 5.4	1 3.9	0 11.7
Bunbury ..	11.4	10.4	3.6	1 6.6	2.4	2 0.0	5.8	1 8.0	1 2.2	1 3.9	1 4.5	0 11.6
Geraldton ..	1 0.0	11.1	3.6	2 1.0	2.6	2 1.8	6.0	1 9.3	1 3.4	1 5.0	1 5.6	1 2.6
Weighted Aver.	11.0	10.2	4.0	1 8.6	2.5	2 0.3	6.9	1 8.7	1 1.6	1 5.9	1 4.4	0 11.2
TASMANIA												
Hobart ..	9.6	8.1	4.6	1 3.8	2.4	1 10.9	5.8	1 6.8	1 1.0	1 5.6	1 3.6	0 10.4
Launceston ..	8.4	8.1	4.1	1 3.8	2.1	1 10.8	5.5	1 6.2	1 0.8	1 4.5	1 4.0	1 0.0
Zeehan ..	10.0	9.0	5.0	1 6.5	2.2	2 1.0	5.9	1 7.2	1 2.2	1 7.6	1 3.2	1 0.4
Beaconsfield ..	10.2	9.2	4.7	1 2.8	2.2	2 1.4	5.0	1 6.3	1 2.0	1 4.2	1 4.2	1 0.7
Queenstown ..	10.4	9.4	4.0	1 4.4	2.0	2 3.0	7.0	1 7.0	1 1.6	1 6.4	1 2.9	1 0.8
Weighted Aver.	9.3	8.3	4.4	1 3.9	2.3	1 11.3	5.8	1 6.6	1 1.1	1 5.3	1 3.7	0 11.2
Weighted Aver. Commonwealth	9.9	9.3	4.3	1 2.4	1.9	1 11.2	5.7	1 6.6	1 0.8	1 5.8	1 3.9	0 11.7

Current Retail Prices in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1917—Cont.

Particulars.	Ham	Beef Fresh Sirloin	Beef Fresh Rib	Beef Fresh Flank	Beef Fresh Shin	Steak Rump	Steak sh'ldeR	Steak Stew-ing	Beef Co'n'd round	Beef Co'n'd brisket with bone	Beef Co'n'd brisket without bone	Mutt'n Leg			
	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.			
N. S. WALES		s. d.	d.	d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.	d.	d.			
Sydney ..	1	5.7	11.3	9.7	9.3	8.0	1	2.6	9.6	8.6	9.6	6.8	8.8	8.4	
Newcastle ..	1	5.4	10.1	9.1	7.8	7.5	1	0.7	9.3	9.0	9.3	6.6	8.5	9.5	
Broken Hill ..	1	4.9	11.6	10.5	8.3	10.9	1	4.6	1	1.1	11.6	9.5	10.6	11.6	
Goulburn ..	1	4.0	9.3	8.3	7.9	8.5	0	11.5	9.0	8.9	9.4	8.2	9.0	8.4	
Bathurst ..	1	4.6	9.4	8.6	6.9	6.5	0	11.3	8.5	8.4	8.9	7.7	8.6	8.8	
Weighted Aver.	1	5.6	11.2	9.6	9.1	8.1	1	2.5	9.7	8.8	9.6	6.9	8.8	8.6	
VICTORIA															
Melbourne ..	1	4.8	10.0	8.7	7.6	6.8	1	1.9	9.0	7.9	9.2	5.8	8.0	8.0	
Ballarat ..	1	4.5	9.6	8.5	7.9	6.0	1	1.4	9.3	9.2	10.0	6.5	8.5	8.4	
Bendigo ..	1	3.7	9.2	8.5	6.3	6.9	1	0.4	9.3	8.3	9.0	6.5	8.4	8.0	
Geelong ..	1	4.8	9.7	9.0	7.0	6.2	1	0.7	8.9	8.7	9.2	7.2	8.3	8.5	
Warrnambool ..	1	3.9	10.0	9.0	7.3	7.6	1	0.0	9.3	9.3	9.8	7.7	9.1	9.0	
Weighted Aver.	1	4.7	9.9	8.7	7.5	6.7	1	1.7	9.1	8.1	9.3	6.0	8.1	8.1	
QUEENSLAND															
Brisbane ..	1	6.0	8.0	6.0	6.2	4.8	0	9.2	6.6	6.6	7.0	4.4	6.0	7.8	
Toowoomba ..	1	5.9	7.7	6.1	5.5	4.2	0	8.9	6.5	6.4	7.0	5.1	6.4	7.7	
Rockhampt'n ..	1	6.3	7.6	6.3	5.5	4.3	0	8.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	4.3	5.4	7.5	
Charters ..															
Towers ..	1	8.0	8.0	6.5	6.5	5.2	0	9.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	4.6	5.5	7.6	
Warwick ..	1	6.0	8.3	7.0	4.8	4.7	0	9.3	7.3	7.0	7.4	5.1	5.7	8.1	
Weighted Aver.	1	6.2	8.0	6.1	6.1	4.7	0	9.1	6.6	6.6	7.0	4.5	5.9	7.7	
S. AUSTRALIA															
Adelaide ..	1	3.8	9.6	8.4	8.4	8.2	1	1.2	9.3	9.1	9.7	7.3	8.4	9.0	
Moonta ..	1	3.2	10.5	10.1	10.0	8.2	1	1.5	10.6	10.4	10.8	9.1	10.0	10.0	
Port Pirie ..	1	3.1	10.0	9.7	7.3	8.5	1	2.1	0.0	11.3	10.8	8.6	10.2	10.8	
Mt. Gambier ..	1	2.0	9.2	8.6	7.7	7.5	1	0.0	9.2	9.3	10.0	8.2	9.4	9.6	
Petersburg ..	1	5.5	8.9	8.5	8.7	8.5	1	2.0	11.3	10.5	11.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	
Weighted Aver.	1	3.7	9.7	8.6	8.5	8.2	1	1.3	9.5	9.3	9.9	7.5	8.7	9.2	
W. AUSTRALIA															
Perth ..	1	5.6	8.6	7.5	6.9	7.4	1	1.0	8.8	8.2	8.1	6.0	7.4	8.6	
Kalgoorlie ..	1	7.9	9.4	8.4	8.3	8.5	1	1.1	10.4	9.3	8.9	6.7	8.5	10.2	
Mid. Junc.tn ..	1	5.4	8.5	7.4	8.0	7.0	1	0.1	8.8	8.0	8.2	6.1	7.2	8.4	
Bunbury ..	1	5.6	10.8	9.8	9.6	8.1	1	2.6	10.7	9.8	9.8	7.3	8.7	11.1	
Geraldton ..	1	6.7	8.0	8.0	5.3	7.3	0	11.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	5.9	7.0	9.8	
Weighted Aver.	1	6.1	8.8	7.8	7.3	7.6	1	1.0	9.2	8.4	8.3	6.2	7.6	9.0	
TASMANIA															
Hobart ..	1	5.6	10.9	9.7	8.2	8.1	1	1.2	9.4	9.3	10.3	7.2	9.2	10.4	
Launceston ..	1	5.6	10.4	9.4	7.2	8.4	1	0.6	9.7	9.5	9.7	7.5	9.0	9.8	
Zeehan ..	1	3.3	10.2	9.9	8.5	8.9	1	0.0	9.9	9.4	10.3	8.4	9.9	10.4	
Beaconsfield ..	1	3.1	10.7	10.7	8.5	9.0	1	1.1	11.2	11.0	10.3	8.4	10.0	10.7	
Queenstown ..	1	3.2	8.9	8.6	8.3	8.5	1	0.4	10.5	10.4	10.7	8.6	10.0	10.9	
Weighted Aver.	1	5.3	10.6	9.6	7.9	8.3	1	0.9	9.7	9.5	10.1	7.5	9.2	10.2	
Weighted Aver.	Commonwealth	1	5.2	10.1	8.7	8.0	7.3	1	1.4	9.1	8.4	9.2	6.4	8.2	8.5

Current Retail Prices in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1917—Cont.

Particulars.	Mutt'n sh'der	Mutt'n Loin	Mutt'n Neck	Chops Loin	Chops Leg	Chops Neck	Pork Leg	Pork Loin	Pork Belly	Pork Chops
Unit of Quantity	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
	d.	s. d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
N. S. WALES										
Sydney ..	7.3	9.0	7.5	9.9	9.4	8.0	1 1.0	1 2.1	1 0.1	1 2.4
Newcastle ..	8.0	9.4	8.0	9.5	9.6	9.1	1 0.0	1 0.0	11.4	1 0.2
Broken Hill	10.5	1 0.6	10.5	1 0.7	1 0.6	11.8	1 0.7	1 0.6	1 0.6	1 2.7
Goulburn ..	7.4	9.0	7.0	9.3	9.1	7.5	11.6	11.8	11.6	11.8
Bathurst ..	7.9	8.8	7.3	8.9	9.0	7.9	10.7	10.9	10.1	11.3
Weighted Aver.	7.5	9.1	7.7	9.9	9.5	8.3	1 0.9	1 1.8	1 0.1	1 2.1
VICTORIA										
Melbourne ..	6.6	7.5	6.1	9.0	9.0	6.8	11.0	11.9	11.8	1 0.6
Ballarat ..	7.2	8.1	6.7	9.0	9.4	7.7	10.6	11.4	11.4	11.5
Bendigo ..	6.8	7.8	6.2	9.0	8.9	7.2	11.4	11.6	11.5	1 0.2
Geelong ..	7.5	8.6	7.3	9.0	9.0	7.7	11.6	11.6	11.6	1 0.3
Warrnambool	7.5	9.0	7.7	9.0	9.0	8.0	10.9	11.0	10.9	1 0.0
Weighted Aver.	6.7	7.6	6.2	9.0	9.0	6.9	11.0	11.8	11.7	1 0.5
QUEENSLAND										
Brisbane ..	5.6	8.0	7.0	8.4	8.5	8.1	11.3	11.5	10.2	1 0.2
Toowoomba ..	5.3	7.6	6.0	7.9	7.9	7.9	9.9	9.9	9.3	10.2
Rockhampt'n ..	5.2	7.5	6.5	7.6	7.7	6.7	11.5	11.5	10.2	11.8
Charters ..										
Towers ..	5.5	7.7	6.7	8.2	8.2	7.6	10.2	10.2	9.8	10.2
Warwick ..	5.7	8.1	6.5	8.1	8.0	6.8	9.4	9.4	8.9	9.4
Weighted Aver.	5.5	7.9	6.8	8.3	8.3	7.9	11.1	11.2	10.0	11.7
S. AUSTRALIA										
Adelaide ..	7.9	8.8	7.4	9.6	10.2	8.6	10.2	11.0	10.9	11.8
Moonta ..	8.9	9.8	8.1	10.5	10.7	9.4	9.7	9.7	9.6	10.2
Port Pirie ..	9.7	10.1	9.5	11.8	11.8	11.1	11.7	11.7	11.6	1 0.6
Mt. Gambier ..	9.3	9.7	8.9	10.0	10.0	9.7	10.7	10.7	10.5	11.1
Petersburg ..	8.9	9.6	9.0	10.9	10.8	10.2	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.5
Weighted Aver.	8.1	9.0	7.6	9.8	10.3	8.8	10.3	10.9	10.9	11.7
W. AUSTRALIA										
Perth ..	7.3	8.4	7.1	9.4	9.5	7.8	9.9	10.1	9.3	10.7
Kalgoorlie ..	7.9	9.7	8.0	10.4	10.4	9.1	11.7	11.7	10.1	1 0.2
Mid. Junction ..	7.0	7.9	6.7	8.9	9.0	7.4	10.1	10.2	9.1	10.8
Bunbury ..	10.1	11.3	10.2	11.4	11.3	10.3	11.5	11.5	10.6	11.7
Geraldton ..	8.8	9.1	6.8	9.8	9.8	8.8	9.8	9.8	9.2	9.8
Weighted Aver.	7.5	8.7	7.3	9.6	9.7	8.2	10.3	10.5	9.5	11.0
TASMANIA										
Hobart ..	8.9	9.8	8.6	10.8	10.7	9.1	11.2	11.9	1 0.1	1 0.4
Launceston ..	9.2	9.6	8.3	10.9	10.5	9.3	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.5
Zeehan ..	9.5	10.4	9.3	10.6	10.6	9.3	11.5	11.4	11.3	11.7
Beaconsfield ..	9.5	10.7	9.1	1 0.0	1 0.2	11.1	10.0	10.0	10.0	11.9
Queenstown ..	9.7	10.5	9.4	11.2	11.2	10.1	11.6	11.7	11.6	1 0.3
Weighted Aver.	9.1	9.8	8.6	10.9	10.7	9.3	11.1	11.5	11.6	1 0.0
Weighted Aver. Commonwealth	7.2	8.5	7.1	9.4	9.4	7.9	11.6	1 0.2	11.4	1 0.8

APPENDIX II.

Current Weekly House Rents† in Metropolitan and Country Towns, 1917.

TOWN.	AVERAGE PREDOMINANT WEEKLY RENTS FOR HOUSES HAVING—												
	Under 4 Rooms.		4 Rooms.		5 Rooms.		6 Rooms.		7 Rooms.		Over 7 Rooms.		
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	
N.S. WALES—													
Sydney ..	11	3	14	9	17	10	20	11	24	6	29	4	
Newcastle ..	6	8	9	2	12	5	15	4	18	2	23	0	
Broken Hill* ..	6	4	9	2	12	3	14	10	17	0	20	10	
Goulburn ..	8	1	11	8	15	3	20	9	25	2	31	1	
Bathurst ..	6	4	8	2	11	0	14	4	19	1	24	0	
Weighted Aver.	11	5	13	11	17	1	20	1	23	7	28	5	
VICTORIA—													
Melbourne ..	9	8	12	6	16	0	19	8	22	10	29	2	
Ballarat ..	4	8	5	5	8	3	11	0	12	10	17	11	
Bendigo ..	3	7	6	6	8	9	12	6	15	2	22	3	
Geelong ..	5	2	8	7	12	7	17	0	20	11	27	7	
Warrnambool ..	4	11	9	0	11	10	14	0	17	5	20	7	
Weighted Aver.	8	8	11	5	14	9	18	5	21	6	27	9	
QUEENSLAND—													
Brisbane ..	6	7	8	7	11	2	14	11	18	0	23	8	
Toowoomba ..	5	2	6	10	9	2	10	9	13	5	20	0	
Rockhampton ..	7	6	7	9	9	11	13	0	15	1	19	11	
Charters Towers ..	5	11	7	10	10	2	12	8	15	2	19	8	
Warwick ..	5	1	5	11	8	8	12	4	14	0	19	0	
Weighted Aver.	6	5	8	2	10	8	14	1	16	11	22	5	
S. AUSTRALIA—													
Adelaide ..	8	1	11	1	14	7	18	6	22	3	25	11	
Moonta, etc. ..	5	10	7	4	11	0	14	1	16	2	17	7	
Port Pirie* ..	9	4	11	4	13	9	15	6	17	0	19	6	
Mt. Gambier ..	6	2	8	3	10	0	13	7	15	0	18	6	
Petersburg ..	8	0	9	0	12	0	14	0	16	0	20	0	
Weighted Aver.	8	0	10	9	14	2	17	11	21	4	24	10	
W. AUSTRALIA—													
Perth ..	8	10	11	6	14	3	17	5	20	9	26	1	
Kalgoorlie ..	9	6	13	7	16	10	20	0	22	9	26	3	
Mid. Junction ..	6	11	8	10	11	8	13	11	20	2	20	0	
Bunbury ..	6	3	8	3	10	3	12	6	15	9	20	8	
Geraldton ..	10	1	13	7	17	1	20	10	27	6	40	0	
Weighted Aver.	8	10	11	9	14	7	17	9	21	2	26	1	
TASMANIA—													
Hobart ..	8	9	11	8	14	3	17	2	19	0	22	1	
Launceston ..	7	10	9	9	13	6	16	0	18	4	22	4	
Zeehan ..	2	8	4	9	6	1	7	6	9	10	13	0	
Beaconsfield ..	2	0	2	6	3	2	4	1	5	9	6	9	
Queenstown ..	7	0	10	7	12	3	14	3	15	10	20	0	
Weighted Aver.	7	9	10	4	13	0	15	8	17	8	21	0	
Weighted Aver.	30 Towns ..	9	4	11	11	15	0	18	5	21	7	26	10
		16	0										

* See remarks on page 41, paragraph (ii.).

† The rents are shewn to the nearest penny.

APPENDIX III.

Average Annual Wholesale Prices in Melbourne, 1916 and 1917.

COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1916.	1917.	COMMODITY.	UNIT.	1916.	1917.
GROUP I. METALS				GROUP V. GROCERIES, &c.—			
Iron—Pig—				Currants ..	lb.	0 7 $\frac{5}{8}$	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Mixed Nos.	ton	124 2	218 4	Raisins ..	..	0 7	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rod and Bar	..	442 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	483 9	Herrings ..	doz. 1 lb.		
Angle and Tee	..	467 11	582 11	Salmon ..	..	9 0	9 4
Plate ..	..	531 8	1,063 4	Tea ..	..	9 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 2
Hoop ..	..	552 6	746 3	Coffee ..	..	8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Galvanized				Cocoa ..	..	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Corrugated				Sugar ..	ton	584 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	587 6
Wire, Fencing	..	712 6	1,243 4	Macaroni ..	lb.	0 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Zinc—Sheet ..	..	2,566 8	2,775 0	Sago ..	ton	476 8	605 0
Lead—Sheet ..	..	770 0	740 0	Rice ..	..	619 2	640 0
Piping ..	lb.	873 9	820 0	Salt—Fine ..	..	92 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	*
Copper—Sheet ..	lb.	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 6	Rock ..	..	119 0	*
Coal (on Wharf)	ton	27 0	29 0	Mustard ..	doz. 1 lb.		
Tinned Plates ..	cwt.	38 0	44 3	Starch ..	..	24 5	28 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Quicksilver ..	lb.	6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	Blue ..	lb.	0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
GROUP II. TEXTILES				Matches ..	..	0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
LEATHER, &c.				Candles ..	..	3 10	4 1
Jute Goods—				Kerosene ..	..	0 8	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Branbags ..	doz.	7 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	Tobacco ..	..	1 4	1 8
Cornsacks ..	..	9 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	9 4			5 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Woolpacks ..	each	3 11	4 1 $\frac{3}{4}$				
Leather—							
Medium Crop	lb.	1 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Waxed Kip ..	..	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Waxed Split ..	..	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4				
Cotton—Raw ..	..	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{5}{8}$				
Wool ..	..	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{8}$				
Twine, Reaper and Binder ..	..	*	*			
Tallow ..	ton	749 9	902 3				
GROUP III. AGRICULT'L PRODUCE—							
Wheat ..	bushel	4 10	4 9				
Flour ..	ton	226 9	215 0				
Bran ..	..	92 11	89 0				
Pollard ..	..	112 5	119 3				
Oats ..	bushel	2 3	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Oatmeal ..	ton	360 0	360 0				
Barley—Malting Feed ..	bushel	4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Maize ..	..	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Hay ..	ton	106 1	107 7				
Straw ..	..	40 8	38 0				
Peas ..	bushel	6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 3				
Potatoes ..	ton	144 4	92 6				
Malt ..	bushel	5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 6 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Chaff ..	ton	61 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	67 7				
Onions ..	..	78 11	157 4				
GROUP IV. DAIRY PRODUCE—							
Ham ..	lb.	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Bacon ..	..	1 1	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cream of Tartar ..	lb.	1 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese ..	..	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Carbonate of Soda ..	ton	261 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	443 9
Butter ..	..	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4	Saltpetre ..	..	945 0	1428 4
Lard ..	..	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10	Sulphur ..	..	425 0	452 1
Eggs ..	doz.	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	Caustic Soda ..	cwt.	*	*
Honey ..	lb.	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5	Potassium Cyanide ..	..	
Beeswax ..	..	1 7	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Alum ..	..	
Condensed Milk	doz. tins	7 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 8		lb.	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0
					ton	461 8	591 8

* Not available.

NOTE.—Many of these prices are the average, not of all classes of commodities, but only of certain brands which have been on the market for a great number of years, and which were adopted for the purpose of computing index numbers shewing the general fluctuations in prices from year to year.

APPENDIX IV.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital Town of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1917.

NOTE.—Ruling or predominant rates of wage are distinguished from Award, Determination or Industrial Agreement rates of wage by an asterisk (*). Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are forty-eight. Award, Determination or Agreement Rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements made, but which were not invariably in force on the 31st December, 1917. It is found, however, that in those States in which Awards, Determinations or Industrial Agreements are made for a specified period, that pending further review of the rates of wage and hours of labour, those previously determined or agreed upon are usually maintained. Where two or more Award, Determination or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. It will be seen that in certain cases of this nature the wages are shewn in the form, say, 50s. to 57s., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified, there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shewn in the form 54s. and 60s., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes and grades of work, and that there are, of course, no intermediate minimum or standard rates.

GROUP I.—WOOD FURNITURE, SAW MILL AND TIMBER YARD.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Coopering.												
Coopers .. .	80	0	80	0	875	/ to 85/	66	0	80	0	80	0*
Furniture and Bedding.												
Bedding Makers .. .	63	0	60	0	66	0	62	6	69	0	52	6
Boultz Carver Operators .. .	69	0*	69	0	71	6	65	0*	78	0	66	0
Cabinetmakers .. .	67	0	65	0	71	6	65	0	72	0	60	0
Carpet Cutters .. .	84	0	70	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	0
" Layers .. .	70	0	65	0	40/ to 63/	..	56	0*	..	..	60	0
" Planners .. .	70	0	70	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	0
Chairmakers .. .	67	0	65	0	71	6	65	0	72	0	60	0
Drape Cutters .. .	84	0	65	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	0
French Polishers .. .	67	0	65	0	67	10	65	0	69	0	60	0
Upholsterers .. .	67	0	65	0	67	10	65	0	69	0	60	0
Wood Carvers .. .	67	0	65	0	71	6	65	0	78	0	60	0
" Machinists .. .	67	0	63	0	62/4	to	65	0	75	0	54/	/ to 60
" Turners .. .	67	0	65	0	71	6	65	0	72	0	60	0
Mattress Making (Wire).												
Finishers .. .	57	6	58	0	66	0	48	0	..	..	52	6
Makers .. .	57	6	58	0	66	0	50	0	69	0	52	6
Varnishers .. .	57	6	58	0	66	0	43	0	..	..	52	6
Organ Building.												
Journeymen .. .	80	0	58	0	60/	/ to 72/6	60	0*	..	..	..	..
Overmantels and Mantelpieces												
Journeymen .. .	67	0	65	0	62/4	to 71/6	65	0	..	..	60	0

Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.

(1) 18 hours. (1a) 15 hours. (2) 30 hours. (3) 33 hours. (4) 36 hours. (4a) 41½ hours. (4b) 40 hours. (5) 42 hours. (5a) 43 hours. (5b) 43½ hours. (5c) 43⅔ hours. (6) 44 hours. (7) 44½ hours. (8) 45 hours. (9) 45½ hours. (10) 46 hours. (10a) 46½ hours. (11) 49½ hours. (12) 47 hours. (12a) 47½ hours. (13) 47½ hours. (14) 49 hours. (15) 49½ hours. (16) 49½ hours. (17) 50 hours. (18) 51 hours. (18a) 51½ hours. (19) 52 hours. (20) 52½ hours. (21) 52½ hours. (22) 53 hours. (23) 53½ hours. (24) 53½ hours. (25) 54 hours. (26) 54½ hours. (26a) 54½ hours. (27) 55 hours. (27a) 55½ hours. (28) 56 hours. (29) 56½ hours. (30) 57 hours. (31) 58 hours. (32) 59 hours. (33) 60 hours. (33a) 62 hours. (34) 63 hours. (35) 65 hours. (36) 70 hours. (37) 72 hours. (38) 77 hours. (38a) 88 hours per fortnight. (38b) 86 hours per fortnight. (39) 7 nights. (39a) 96 hours per fortnight. (39b) 98 hours per fortnight. (39c) 112 hours per fortnight. (40) 116 hours per fortnight. (41) 136 hours per fortnight. (42) 144 hours per fortnight. (42a) 156 hours per fortnight. (43) 150 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (43a) 50 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (44) 52 hours (summer), 45 hours (winter). (44a) 52 hours (day), 48 hours (night). (45) 54 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (46) 54½ hours (summer), 52½ hours (winter). (47) 55 hours (summer), 46 hours (winter). (47a) 55 hours (summer), 50 hours (winter). (47b) 55 hours (summer), 52 hours (winter). (48) 55 hours (summer), 54 hours (winter). (48a) 56 hours (summer), 44 hours (winter). (49) 56 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (49a) 56 hours (summer), 52 hours (winter). (49b) 56 hours (summer), 53 hours (winter). (50) 57 hours (summer), 44 hours (winter). (50a) 57 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (50b) 57 hours (summer), 52½ hours (winter). (51) 58 hours (summer), 46 hours (winter). (52) 58 hours (summer), 50 hours (winter). (53) 58 hours (summer), 56 hours (winter). (54) 59 hours (summer), 58 hours (winter). (55) 60 hours (summer), 56 hours (winter). (56) 60 hours (summer), 58 hours (winter). (57) 84 hours and 72 hours alternate weeks. (58) 48 hours, 51 hours, 54 hours four months each in each year. (59) 56 hours and 59 hours within certain radius. (60) 56 hours and 60 hours within certain radius. (61) 58 hours (summer), 54 hours (winter).

GROUP I. WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILL AND TIMBER YARD.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Piano Making.												
Cabinet Makers ..	67	0	65	0	60/ to 72/ 6		65	0*	..	..	..	..
Framemakers, Iron ..	72	0	66	0	..		..	..	..	..	..	..
Wood ..	67	0	65	0	..		..	..	..	..	..	..
French Polishers ..	67	0	65	0	67	6	65	0*	..	..	..	..
Veneerers ..	67	0	50/ & 60/		72	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wood Carvers ..	67	0	60	0	..		65	0*	..	..	..	..
, Turners ..	67	0	60	0	..		65	0*	..	..	..	..
Picture Framing.												
Compo. Workers ..	58	0	53	0	..		60/	0*	1755	0*	..	..
Fitters Up ..	56	0	53	0	..		50/ to 55/ *	50/ to 60/ *	1750	0*	1250/ to 60/ *	..
General Hands ..	55	0	52	0	..		60	0*	..	..	..	..
Gilders ..	65	0	57	6	..		..	..	..	..	..	..
Joiners ..	65	0	57	6	..		60/ to 63/ *	60/ to 70/ *	1760	0*	..	..
Mount Cutters ..	65	0	57	6	..		53/ to 63/ *	60/ to 70/ *	1760	0*	..	..
Sawyers (Band or Jig) ..	58	0	58/ & 64/		57	0*	60/ to 65/ *	..	..	..	..	..
Saw Milling & Timber Yards												
Box and Case Makers ..	63	0	62	0	64	0	57	0	57	6	55	6
Labourers ..	60	6	57	0	63	0	54	0	..	..	60	0
Machinists, Box Printing ..	60	6	59	0	65	0	55	6	..	..	..	..
Boults Carver ..	75	0	71	0	70	0	69	0*	..	..	72	0
, Buzzer or Jointer ..	69	0	65	0	65	0	63	0	60	6	63	0
, General Jointer ..	75	0	68	0	..		69	0*	75	6	72	0
, Morticing or Boring ..	61	6	60	0	65	0	60	0	60	6	60	0
, Moulding ..	68	0	65	0	70	0	63	0	63/ 6 & 69/ 6	63/ 6 & 67/ 6	..	..
, own Grinder ..	74	0	70	0	..		67	6	..	..	72	0
, Nailing ..	60	6	62	0	64	0	55	6	..	..	60	0
, Planing ..	66	0	65	0	65	0	58	6	75	6	63	0
, Sandpapering ..	62	6	61	0	65	0	60	0	60/ & 63/ 6	63	0	..
, Shaping ..	75	0	71	0	84	0	63	0	78	6	72	0
, Tenoning ..	69	0	65	0	65	0	60	0	63	6	63	0
Ordermen ..	64	6	63	0	66	0	60	0	66	6*	61	6
Pullers or Tailers Out ..	60	6	54/ & 58/		63	0	54/ & 57/	..	60	6	57/ & 58/ 6	..
Saw Doctors ..	84	0	77	0	80	0	75	0	80	0*	75	0
Sharpeners ..	72	0	65	0	71	0	66	0	72	0*	63	0
Sawyers, Band or Jig ..	74	0	63/ & 68/		73	0	60	0	66	6	64	6
, Circular ..	60/ 6 to 72/ 6	62/ & 65/	69	0	..		60/ & 66/	63/ 6 & 69/ 6	60/ to 66/	..	..	..
, Gang Frame ..	62	6	63/ & 65/		66	0	69	0	66	6	61	6
, Recut Band ..	60/ 6 to 72/ 6	63/ to 69/	70	0	..		69	0	66	6	64	6
Stackers ..	77	0*	63	0	..		73	4	77	0	60	6
Talleymen ..	64	6	63	0	69	0	60	0	60	6	55	6
Wood Turners ..	75	6	67	0	73	0	65	0	72	0	63	0
Undertaking.												
Coachmen ..	1462	6	156	0	62	6†	155	0	156	0	50	0*
Coffin Makers or Trimmers ..	72	0	60/ & 64/		62	6†	64	0	60	0†	50	0*
Venetian Blind Making.												
Journeymen ..	63/ & 65/	54/ to 60/ *	..	..	66	0	50	0*	..	..	57	0

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.

Agricultural Implements.												
Assemblers ..	60	6	57	0	55/ to 60/ *		57	0	57/ & 58/ 6		..	..
Blacksmiths ..	68	0	66	0	..		66	0	69/ to 78/		..	..
Bulldozermen ..	59	0	63	0	..		63	0	69	0	..	..
Carpenters ..	67	6	66	0	..		66	0	..	..	..	..
Drillers ..	59	0	55	0	..		56	0	57/ to 60/		..	..
Engine Drivers ..	67/ & 71/ 6	57/ to 69/	..	..	60	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fitters ..	62/ to 68/	60/ & 66/	..	..	66	0	..	..	72	0	..	..
Grinders ..	59	0	59	0	..		56	0	..	..	..	..
Labourers (unskilled) ..	57	0	54	0	..		54	0	54	0	..	..
Machinists, Iron ..	59/ to 68/	60	0	..	..		57/ & 60/	..	..	..	..	..
Wood ..	59/ to 68/	63	0	..	..		57/ & 60/	..	..	..	..	..
Painters (Brush) ..	60	6	56	0	..		56	0	..	..	..	..
(Scroll) ..	67	6	66	0	..		66	0	..	..	..	..
Patternmakers ..	76	0	72	0	..		72	0	81	0	..	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † 44 and 48 hours per week.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

APPENDIX.

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Agricultural Implements—<i>cont.</i>												
Sheet Iron Workers	59	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	..	..	..	..
Storemen	58	6	54	0	54	0	54	0	..	..	..	..
Strikers	60	6	57	0	..	..	57	0	57/ to 60/	..	..	..
Turners	68	0	66	0	..	..	66	0	72	0	..	..
Wheelwrights	67	6	66	0	..	..	66	0	..	..	..	..
Bedstead Making (Metallic)												
Blacksmiths	57	/ to 69/	62	0	60	6	72	0	..	..	..	..
Chillfitters (Modellers)	67	6*	77	0	74	3	60	0*	..	..	..	..
(Other)	65	0	65	0	57/9	/ to 66/	56	0	..	..	..	..
Chippers	61	0	59	0	56	3	43	0	..	..	..	..
Cutters, etc.	61	0	60	0	56	3	48	0	..	..	..	..
Electroplaters	65	0	73	0	*60	0*	63	0	..	..	..	..
Fitters Up	62	0	62/ & 65/	..	57	9	51	0	..	..	..	..
Foundry Hands	61	0	60	0	54/ & 56/3	..	58	6*	..	..	..	..
Frame Setters	64	0	63	0	63	3	54	0	..	..	..	..
Furnacemen	65	0	60	0	58	6	60	0*	..	..	..	..
Japanners	60	6	62	0	55	0	43/ & 51/	..	..	..	..	..
Lacquerers	64	0	60	0	55	0	48	0	..	..	..	..
Mounters	60	6	62	0	55	0	43/ & 51/	..	..	..	..	..
Polishers	61	0	60	0	49	6	48	0	..	..	..	..
Boiler Making.												
Journeymen	78	0	77	0	*71/6&77/	..	75	0	72	0	69	0
Railway Men	78	0	66/ to 75/*	..	81	0	75/ to 81/	..	72	0*	69/ to 72/	..
Brass Working.												
Coremakers	68/ & 72/	..	63	0	*71	6	48	0	72	0	..	..
Dressers	59	0	57	0	*55	0	43	0	72	0	..	..
Finishers	70	0	69	0	*71	6	75	0*	72	0	51	0
Furnace Men	63	0	59	6	*62	4	43	0	66	0	42	0
Moulders	68/ & 72/	..	69	0	*71	6	60	0	72	0	60	0
Polishers	60	0	62	0	*71	6	45	0	..	..	..	..
Cycles and Motors.												
Assemblers	58	0	61/ & 63/6	..	*50	0*	50/ to 70/*	..	58	6*	52	0
Cleaners	56	0	61	0	..	..	50	0*	..	..	52	0
Fileers	53	0	61	0	*65	0	50	0*	57	0*	52	0
Fitters	60	0	63	6	*55/ to 65/*	..	50/ to 75/*	..	75	6	65	0
Frame Builders	56/ & 60/	..	61/ & 66/	..	..	..	50/ to 65/*	..	..	..	55	0
Repairers	56/ & 60/	..	61/ & 63/6	..	..	..	50/ to 70/*	..	..	..	50/ & 52/	..
Turners (Cycle)	60	0	..	..	..	..	75	0	75	6	65	0
(Motor)	70	0	73	6	..	..	75	0	..	..	65	0
Wheel Builders	53	0	61	0	*50	0*	..	..	..	..	55	0
Electrical Installation.												
Armature Winders	82	0	66	0	84	0	72	0	75	6	69	0
Cable Jointers	82	0	81	0	81	0	72	0	..	..	66	0
Fitters	82	0	66	0	84	0	72	0	75	6	69	0
Linesmen	74	0	74	0	72	0	70	0	66	6	57/ & 62/	..
Mechanics	74	0	74	0	81	0	70	0	75	6	69	0
Patrolmen	63	0	63	0	..	..	70	0	..	..	66	0
Wiremen	74	0	74	0	72	0	65	0	69	6	60	0
Assistant .....	..	..	63	0	60	0	..	..	..	..	54	0
Other Adults .....	..	..	63	0	60	0	54	0	57	6	54	0
Electrical Supply.												
Armature Winders	82	0	67	0	84	0	72	0	75	6	69	0
Cable Jointers	82	0	70	0	81	0	72	0	..	..	66	0
Carboners (arc lamp attend.)	62	0	60	0	66	0	60	0	..	..	60	0
Instrument Makers	70	0	67	0	84	0	70	0	75	6	69	0
Linesmen	74	0	65	0	72	0	64	0	66	6	57/ & 62/	..
Meter Fixers	78	0*	60	0	..	..	60	0	..	..	54	0
Testers	72	0	67	0	84	0	66	0	..	..	69	0
Patrolmen (Night)	67	0*	70	0	..	..	70	0	..	..	66	0
Shift Electricians	82	0	70	0	74/ to 88/	..	..	..	..	..	68	0
Sub-Station Attendants .....	..	..	64	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	0
Switchboard Attendants	60	0	58	0	60	0	58	0	..	..	54	0
Switchmen .....	..	..	56	6	..	..	64	0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults	62	0*	55	0	60	0	54	0	..	..	54	0

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† In Melbourne the current Wages Board determination provides for special rates for night shifts.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Electrical Trades.												
Fitters ..	82	0	66	0	84	0	72	0	75	6	69	0
Mechanics ..	74	0	63	0	81	0	70	0	75	6	69	0
Wiremen ..	74	0	63	0	72	0	65	0	69	6	60	0
Electroplating.												
Makers Up ..	64	0	55	0			58	0*	66	0	60	0
Platers ..	70	0	72	0	60	6	66	0	66	0	60	0
Polishers ..	64/ & 66/		63	0	52	3	54	0*	..	..	..	..
Engineering.†												
Blacksmiths ..	80	0	77	0	75	2	72	0	81	6	69	0
Bolt and Nut Machinists ..	62	0	62	0			66	0*	63	6*	..	..
Borers and Slotters ..	68/ & 76/		77	0	66	0	66/ & 72/		69	6	69	0
Brassfinishers ..	78	0	69	0	71	6	60	0	75	6	69	0
Coppersmiths ..	80	0	77	0	75	2	69	0	81	6	69	0
Drillers (Radial) ..	76	0*	62	0*	60	6	58	0	63	6*	69	0
,, (Other) ..	59	0	62	0	60	6	58	0	63	6	69	0
Drophammer Smiths ..	74	0	77	0	71	6			81	6	..	..
Fitters ..	78	0	77	0	71	6	75	0	75	6	69	0
Lappers and Grinders ..	59	0	65	0	71	6	72	0			..	..
Millers (Universal) ..	76	0*	77	0			75	0	75	6	69	0
,, (Other) ..	68/ & 76/		65	0	71	6	72	0	69	6	69	0
Oliversmiths ..	74	0	77	0	71	6			81	6	..	..
Pattern Makers ..	82	0	83	0	77	0	78	0	84	6	69	0
Planers (Rail & Plate Edge) ..	68/ & 76/		65	0	60	6	60	0	69	6	..	..
,, (Other) ..	68/ & 76/		77	0	66	0	66	0	69	6	69	0
Shapers ..	68/ & 76/		65/ & 77/		66	0	66	0	69	6	69	0
Springsmiths ..	72	0	77	0			66	0*	81	6	..	..
Turners ..	78	0	77	0	71	6	75	0	75	6	69	0
Farrying.												
Firemen ..	76	0	72	0	1260	0	69	0	66	0*	45	0*
Floormen ..	70	0	67	0	1260	0	63	0	60	0*	40	0*
Shoeingsmiths ..	76	0	72	0	1260	0	69	0	66	0*	45	0*
Ironworkers' Assistants.												
Boilermakers' Helpers ..	57	0	58	0	55	0	51	0	57/ to 60/		54	0
,, Labourers ..	54	0	52	0	55	0	51	0	54	0	48	0
Engineers' Labourers ..	54	0	52	0	55	0	51	0	57	0	48	0
Furnacemen's Assistant ..	57	0	55	0	55	0	50	0	57	6*	..	..
General Labourers ..	54	0	48	0	55	0	51	0	54/ to 60/		48	0
Moulders' Labourers ..	54	0	48	0	55	0	48	0	54	0	48	0
Strikers ..	59	0	54	0	55	0	51	0	57	0	54	0
Moulding (Iron.)												
Coremakers (Machine) ..	72	0	65	0	71	6	72	0	66	0	66	0
,, (Other) ..	72	0	71/ to 77/		71	6	72	0	66	0	66	0
Dressers and Fettlers ..	56	0	61	6	55	0	57	0	60	6*	48	0
Furnacemen ..	62/ & 68/		63	0	62	4	64	0	69	6*	48	0
Moulders (Machine) ..	68	0	65	0	71	6	63	0	66	0	66	0
,, (Other) ..	72	0	71/ to 77/		71	6	72	0	66	0	66	0
Moulding Piano Frames ..	67/ & 71/		71	0			..	..	..	..	..	..
Moulding Pipes (Bank).												
Casters and Finishers ..	60	0	62	0			72	0*	66/ to 84/		..	..
Coremakers ..	60	0	71/ to 77/				72	0*	60	0	..	..
Footmen (4-in. and under) ..	66	0	65	0	60	6	69	0*	66	0	..	..
,, (5 and 6-ins.) ..	68	0	68	0	60	6	69	0*	72	0	66	0
Headmen (4-in. and under) ..	72	0	71	0	66	0	72	0*	72	0	..	..
,, (5 and 6-ins.) ..	74	0	77	0	66	0	72	0*	78	0	66	0
Moulding Pipes (Machine).												
Coremakers (Faucet) ..	60	0	71/ to 72/				..	..	..	..	..	..
,, (Spigot) ..	60	0	65/ to 68/				..	..	..	..	..	..
Finishers and Casters ..	60	0	71/ to 77/		57	9	..	..	..	..	..	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † In Melbourne the current Wages Board Determination provides for special rates of wage for night shifts.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Moulding Pipes (Vertical).						
Casters .. .	60 0	62 0	65 7 9	.. .	69 6	66 0
Coremakers .. .	60 0	62 0	64 9 6	72 0*	69 6	66 0
Corers .. .	60 0	62 0	65 7 9	.. .	63 6	.. .
Rammers .. .	60 0	62 0	65 2 3	69 0*	69 6	66 0
Moulding (Steel).						
Coremakers .. .	72 0	65/ to 77/	.. .	72 0	75 6*	.. .
Moulder .. .	72 0	65/ to 77/	71 6	63/ & 72/	75 6*	.. .
Moulding (Stove).						
Moulder .. .	67/ & 71/	71 0	60 6	60 0	672 0*	.. .
Ovenmaking.						
Blacksmiths .. .	65 0	61 0	.. .	52 0	60/ to 72/*	.. .
Grinders and Polishers .. .	64/ & 65/	63 0	65 0	54 0	60/ to 66/*	.. .
Ovenmakers .. .	67/ & 71/	65 0	60 6	52 0	60/ to 72/*	.. .
Sheet Metal Working.						
Canister Makers .. .	54 C	56/ & 63/	64 0	63 0	57 6	.. .
Japanners (Coating or Brushwork) .. .	.. .	56 0	66 0	56 0	.. .	.. .
Japanners (Gainers, Liners etc.) .. .	.. .	60 0	66 0	60 0	.. .	.. .
Japanners (Ornamental) .. .	.. .	66 0	66 0	66 0	.. .	.. .
Machinists .. .	54/ & 56/	62 0	66 0	56/ & 62/	57 6	.. .
Solderers .. .	54 0	59/ & 63/	66 0	55 0	57 6	51 0
Tinsmiths .. .	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	68 0	57 0*
Wireworking (Barbed Wire).						
Toolsharpeners or Machinist	66 0	57 0	.. .	54 0*	.. .	.. .
Galvanising—						
Galvanisers .. .	63 0	66 0	80 0	60 0*	.. .	.. .
Picklers .. .	63 0	61 0	66 0	60 0*	.. .	.. .
,, (Assistant) .. .	63 0	56 0	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .
Nailmaking—						
Case Wirers .. .	59 0	51 0	.. .	54 0*	.. .	.. .
Labourers .. .	57 0	51 0	.. .	54 0*	.. .	.. .
Setters Up .. .	66 0	60 0	.. .	54/ to 65/*	.. .	.. .
Stoermen .. .	57 0	56 0	.. .	54 0*	.. .	.. .
Toolmakers .. .	78 0	63 0	.. .	57 0*	.. .	.. .
Wire Netting Working—						
Hand-Loom Weavers .. .	64 0	57 6	.. .	50 0	.. .	.. .
Power-Loom Weavers .. .	55 6	57 6	.. .	50 0	.. .	.. .
Strikers .. .	48 0	48 0	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .
Wire Working—						
Journeymen .. .	64 0	63 0	.. .	45 0	60/ to 65/*	60 0*

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Aerated Waters and Cordials.						
Bottlers .. .	60 0	54 0	60 0*	54 0	58 0	45 0
Bottlewashers .. .	58 0	50 0	40/ to 48/*	54 0	54 0	45 0*
Drivers (Motor) .. .	61/ & 63/	66 0	65/ & 69/	65/ & 70/	.. .	66 0
,, (One Horse) .. .	56/ & 58/	1761 0	1761 0	4261 0	59 0	61 0
,, (Two Horse) .. .	61 0	1766 0	1766 0	4264 0	59 0	66 0
Grooms or Stablemen† .. .	56/ & 58/	1860 0	1860 0	4260 0	1154 0	1860 0
Loaders .. .	58 0	50 0	61 0*	54 0	54 0	45 0
Packers .. .	58 0	50 0	61 0*	54 0	58 0	45 0
Wirers .. .	58 0	50 0	.. .	54 0	54/ & 58/	45 0
Baking (Bread).						
Board Hands .. .	70 0	76 0	67/6 & 70/	67 6	67 6	60 0
Carters (One Horse) .. .	2560 0	2560 9	1761 0	2560 0	2560 0	1761 0
,, (Two Horses) .. .	2560 0	2560 9	1766 0	2560 0	2560 0	1766 0
Doughmen .. .	72/6 & 75/	76 0	172 6	67 6	67 6	60 0
Forehands .. .	75/ & 80/	84 0	875/ & 80/	67 6	68 0	70 0
Ovenmen .. .	75 0	76 0	870/ & 75/	67 6	68 0	60 0
Singlehands .. .	75 0	84 0	875 0	67 6	68 0	65 0

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† Hours quoted for Melbourne and Hobart came into force on 1st January, 1918.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Baking (Biscuits and Cakes).												
Adult Males	56	0	54	0	57	6	58	0*	55/ to 60/*			
Bakers	67	6	60	0	67	6	60/ to 67/6*	60/ to 70/*	57	6		
Brakesmen	60	0	56	0	60	0	55/ to 60/*	45/ to 60/*	52	0		
Mixers	60	0	60	0	67	6	65	0*	55/ to 65/*	60	0	
Oven Firemen	56	0	56	0	60	0	60/ to 63/*	55/ to 60/*	57	6		
Storemen	60	0	54	0	1 ² 63	6	58	0*	60/ to 65/*			
Brewing.												
Adult Males	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	63	0	57	0
Bottle Packers	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	63	0	57	0
Bottlers and Washers	60	0	60	0	60	0	60	0	63	0	57	0
Cellarmen	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	60	0
Drivers (One Horse)†	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 60/60/61/		1 ² 61	0	1 ² 60	0	63	0	1 ² 57/57/61/	
“ (Two Horses)†	1 ² 63	0	1 ² 60/60/66/		1 ² 66	0	1 ² 63	0	63	0	1 ² 57/57/66/	
“ (Motor, under 3 tons)‡	1 ² 63	0	1 ² 63/ to 70/		65/ to 70/		1 ² 63	0			60/ to 70/	
“ (3 tons & over)	1 ² 66	0	1 ² 66/ & 74/		73/ & 75/		1 ² 66	0	70/6 & 73/		63/ & 74/	
Engine Drivers	72	0	66/ & 78/		68/ to 84/		72	0	75	0*	72	0*
Firemen	69	0	60/ & 66/		66	0	66	0	66	0	63	0*
Greasers and Trimmers	60	0	54	0	66/ & 60/		60	0	66	0*		
Malt Hands	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	57	0
Stablemen and Grooms	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 63	0	1 ² 60	0
Towermen	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	57	0
Butchering (Carcase).												
Carters (One Horse)	2 ⁵ 62	6			60	0	1 ² 61	0	1 ² 70	0	1 ² 47	0
“ (Two Horses)	2 ⁵ 70	0	1 ² 60	0	60	0	1 ² 64	0	1 ² 70	0	1 ² 52	0
Chilling Room Hands	60/ & 72/		66	0	65	0			1 ² 60	0		
Labourers (Beef)			72	0	1 ² 60	0	57	6	1 ² 60	0	52	6
“ (Mutton)			60	0	1 ² 60	0	57	6	1 ² 60	0	52	6
Scalders	60/ & 72/		70	0	65	0	72	6	1 ² 70	0	1 ² 52	6
Slägterhermen (Beef)§	100	0	1 ² 80	0	77	6	78	6	80	0	52/6 & 65/	
“ (Mutton)	†		1 ² 80	0	77	6	78	0	80	0	52/6 & 65/	
Butchering (Retail).§												
Carters (Cash Cutting)	72	6	1 ² 70	0	70	0			1 ² 60	0	1 ² 60	0
“ (One Horse)	55	0	1 ² 60	0	57	6	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 50	0	1 ² 47	0
“ (Two Horses)	55	0	1 ² 60	0	60	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 50	0	1 ² 52	0
General Hands	60	0	70	0	65	0	70	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 57	6
Salters	72	6	70	0	65	0	70	0	1 ² 70	0	1 ² 57	6
Shopmen	65	0	70	0	65	0	70	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 57	6
Smallgoodsmen	72	6	70	0	65	0	70	0	1 ² 70	0	1 ² 65	0
“ (Assistant)	65	0	70	0	57	6	70	0	1 ² 60	0	1 ² 57	6
Butter Making.												
Buttermaker	73	0	52	6	*60	0*						
Cream Grader	65	0	57	6	*60	0*						
Cream or Milk Tester	60	0	55	0	*60	0*						
Machinists (Milk, Drying, etc.)			50	0								
Machinists (Pasteurizer) (Separator, Weighing, etc.)	55	6	48	0								
Other Adults	55	6	48	0								
Storemen or Packers	55	6	45	0	*50	0*	55/ to 60/*					
			48	0			58	0				
Cheesemaking.												
Journeymen	..	..	1 ² 54	0			70	0*				
Other Adults	..	..	1 ² 45	0			..					
Cold Storage and Ice.												
Carters (Motor)	4 ⁵ 61	0	50	0	65	0	65/ & 70/		66	0		
“ (One Horse)¶	& 63	0										
“ (Two Horses)¶	4 ⁵ 56	6	4 ⁵ a63/ & 65/		1 ² 61	0	1 ² 61	0	1 ² 61	0	47	0
Chamber Hands	64	0	72	0	4 ⁶ 62	6	54/ to 60/*	17 ²⁵ 54	0			
Pullers and Stackers	58	0	66	0	61/ to 64/*		54/ to 60/*	2 ⁵ 54	0			
Rabbit Packers	60	0	62	0					60	0		

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Piece-work rates. ‡ Hours quoted for Melbourne and Hobart came into force on 1st January, 1918; in Brisbane on 16th January, 1918. § Hobart rates from 12th January, 1918. ¶ Hours quoted for Perth came into force on 1st January, 1918. ¶ 48 and 52 hours per week.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Confectionery.‡												
Journeymen .. .	60	0	72	0	65	0	60	0	60	0	60	0*
Labourers .. .	54	0	54	0	57	6	50	0	50	0	..	..
Storermen (Head) .. .	54	0	68	0	65/- to 90/-		56	0	60	0	..	..
," (Other) .. .	54	0	60	0	63	6	50	0	50	0	..	..
Ham and Bacon Curing.												
Casing Cleaners (Foreman)	66	0	68	0	*87	0	68	0	..	..	60	0
Curers (First Hand) .. .	85	0	72	6	*87	0	72	6	..	..	57	6
," (Assistant) .. .	70	0	62	6	*70	0	62	6	..	..	..	..
Cutters Up (First Hand) .. .	72	6	72	6	*81	0	72	6	..	..	52	6
," (Assistant) .. .	65	0	65	0	*72	0	65	0	..	..	52	6
Ham Baggers .. .	56	0	75	0	..	..	56	0	..	..	..	..
Lardmen .. .	60	0	56/- & 67/6	75	0	56/- & 67/6	..	..	..	..	52	6
Rollers and Trimmers .. .	65	0	65	0	*66	0	65	0	..	..	52	6
Scalders .. .	60	0	65	0	*77	6	65	0	56	0	52	6
Shavers .. .	60	0	65	0	*66	0	65	0	..	..	52	6
Slaughtermen .. .	100	0	72	6	*87	0	72	6	56	0	55	0
," (Assistant) .. .	80	0	65	0	*81	0	65	0	..	..	52	6
Smallgoodsmen (First Hand) .. .	72	6	72	6	*87	0	72	6	..	..	57	6
Smallgoodsmen (Assistant) .. .	60	0	60	0	*66	0	60	0	..	..	52	6
Smokers (First Hand) .. .	65	0	67	6	*81	0	67	6	..	..	52	6
," (Assistant) .. .	60	0	56	0	*66	0	56	0	..	..	52	6
Washers (First Hand) .. .	65	0	..	..	*68	9	56	0	..	..	52	6
," (Assistant) .. .	60	0	56	0	*66	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jam Making and Preserving.												
Adult Males .. .	54	0	57	0	56/- to /64*	..	54	0	66	0*	48	0
Soldiers .. .	57	0	57	0	66	0	55	0	66	0*	51	0
Malting.												
Maltsters .. .	56	0	60	0	63	0	..	..	60	0	56	0
Meat Packing.												
Cappers .. .	64	0	60	0	58	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fillers and Podgers .. .	54	0	60	0	52	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Hands .. .	54	0	60	0	58	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jokermen .. .	64	0	60	0	61	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lacquerers .. .	64	0	60	0	52	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Margarine Makers .. .	56	6	74	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Packers .. .	54	0	60	0	52	6	..	..	..	..	..	..
Seamers .. .	64	0	60	0	65	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Milk Delivery.												
Carters (One Horse) .. .	1 ⁹ 62	0	1 ⁸ 61	0	*57	6	1 ⁷ 61	0	*60	0	*47	0
," (Two Horses) .. .	1 ⁹ 61	0	1 ⁸ 66	0	..	..	1 ⁷ 64	0	..	..	*52	0
Milling (Condiments).												
Grinders .. .	67	0	66	0	65	0*	66	0	..	..	..	..
Mixers or Blenders .. .	60	0	66	0	65	0*	66	0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults .. .	60	0	57	6	60/- to 65/*	..	57	6	..	..	..	..
Stone Dressers .. .	67	6	63	0	..	..	63	0	..	..	..	..
Milling (Flour).												
Engine Drivers .. .	69/- & 72/-	..	69/- & 72/-	..	68/- to 84/-	..	69/- & 72/-	..	69/- to 75/-	..	50/- & 65/-	..
Firemen .. .	63/- to 67/-	..	63	0	66	0	63	0	63	0	50	0
Millers (Head) .. .	83	6	79	0	80	0	79	0	79	0	70	0
," (Shift) .. .	74/- to 82/6	..	69/- to 78/-	..	62/6 to 70/-	..	69/- to 78/-	..	69/- to 78/-	..	55	0
Millwrights .. .	77	6	75	0	..	..	75	0	75	0	65	0
Packermen .. .	62	0	62	0	61	0	62	0	62	0	48	0
Purifermen .. .	62	6	61	0	61	0	61	0	61	0	48	0
Silksmen .. .	62	6	61	0	61	0	61	0	61	0	48	0
Smuttermen .. .	62	0	62	0	61	0	62	0	62	0	..	..
Storermen (Head) .. .	65/- & 66/3	..	65	0	62/6 & 65/-	..	65	0	65	0	52	6
Topmen .. .	62	6	61	0	61	0	61	0	61	0	48	0
Truckers and others .. .	61	0	60	0	..	..	60	0	60	0	48	0
Wheat Carriers .. .	84	0†	84	0†	72	0†	72	0†	72	0†	84	0†
Milling (Oatmeal).												
Kilmen .. .	62	6	60	0	..	..	60	0	..	..	48	0
Millers (Head) .. .	73	0	66	0	..	..	66	0	..	..	70	0

* Ruling or predominant rates see note at top of page 164.
rate for 48 hours. † Melbourne rates from 2nd January, 1918.

† Computed on the hourly

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Milling (Rice).												
Dryingroom Hands	66	0	57	6	..		57	6	..		..
Millers (Head)	73	0	66	0	..		66	0	..		..
Other Adults	60	0	57	6	..		57	6	..		..
Stonedressers	67	6	63	0	..		63	0	..		..
Pastrycooking.												
Carters‡	1257	6	1261	0	1261	0	48	0	..		1261	0
Packers	57	6	48	0								
Pastrycooks	66	0	69	0	75	0	67	6	61/6 & 69/	60	0	
" (Assistant)	1255	6	63	0	67	6	..			50	0	
Poulterers.												
Bench Hands (1st Rate)	65	0	57	6	..		..		..		..
(2nd Rate)	60	0	50	0	..		..		..		..
Foremen	72	6	65	0	..		..		..		..
Tea Packing.												
Foremen	65	0*	67	6	1270	0*	70	0*	..		..
Headmen	60	0*	61	6			65	0*	..		..
Other Adults	58/6 to 60/*		56	0	1260 & 62/6*		58	0*	..		..
Tobacco Working (Cigars).												
Sorting and Packing	..	†	54	0	..		..		..		..

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bootmaking.												
Bootmakers	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0	66	0
Dyeing and Cleaning.												
Clothes Cleaners	50/ to 60/*		50	0	..		60	0*	554	0*	60	0*
Dyers (Black)	70	0*	55	0	..		65	0*	580	0*	..	
(Colour)	70	0*	55	0	..		65	0*	580	0*	..	
Dye-house Labourers	45	0*	45	0	..		..		554	0*	..	
Hatmaking (Straw).												
Bleachers	..	..	50	0					..		..
Blockers	1255	7	56	0	12a55	0*	1055/ to 65/*		..		..
Foremen	1260	0	63	0	12a60	0*	1070	0*	..		..
Stiffeners	1255	7	56	0	12a55	0*	1055/ to 65/*		..		..
Tailoring (Order).												
Cutters	82	6	75	0	80	0	70	0	70	0	70	0*
Pressers	64	0	60	0	65	0	55	0	60	0	60	0
Tailors	65	0	65	0	65	0	60	0	70	0	65/ & 70/	
Trimmers	72	6	57	6	65	0	51	0	..		60	0
Tailoring (Ready-made).												
Brushers	54	0	52	0	1260	0	55	0	..		50	0
Cutters	72	6	65	0	1265	0	65	0	70	0	65	0
Folders	54	0	52	0	1260	0	55	0	..		50	0
Mathinists	..	..	60	0	1260	0	60	0	65	0	60	0
Pressers (Coat Hands)	64	0	60	0	1265	0	57/6 & 60/		60	0	55/ & 57/6	
" (Trouser and Vest Hands)	64	0	60	0	1265	0	57/6 & 60/		60	0	55/ & 57/6	
Tailors	67	6	65	0	1265	0	62	6	70	0	65	0
Trimmers	72	6	57	6	1265	0	56	0	..		57	0
Under Pressers (Coat Hands)	54	0	52	0	1260	0	55	0	60	0	55	0
" (Trouser and Vest Hands)	54	0	50	0	1260	0	55	0	50	0	55	0
Textile Working (Woollen Mills).												
Carders	55	6	55	0	60	0	54/ to 60/*		..		37	6
Dyehousemen	57	0	54	0	60	0	54	0*	..		47	6
Foremen	67/6 to 72/6		60/ to 90/	*	..		60/ to 90/	*	..		55/ to 60/	
Labourers (General)	55	6	54	0	60	0	54	0*	..		42	6
" (Willyhouse)	55	6	54	0	60	0	54	0*	..		42	6
Milling Hands	55	6	54	0	60	0	54/ to 60/	*	..		42	6
Other Adults	55	6	54	0	60	0	54	0*	..		42	6
Pattern Weavers	58	0	54/ & 58/		..		54/ & 58/	*	..		..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Piece-work rates. ‡ Hours quoted for Melbourne and Hobart came into force on 1st January, 1918. § 44 and 48 hours per week.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)—cont.						
Scourers	55 6	54 0	63 0	54 0*	..	42 0
Spinners	55 6	57 0	70 0	54/ & 57/*	..	45 0
Tuners	60/ to 71/	55/ to 65/	60/ & 65/	54/ to 65/*	..	55 0
Twisters in	59 0	54 0	..	54 0*	..	45 0
Warpers	55 6	55 0	..	55 0*	..	52 6
Tiernaking.						
Cutters (Lining) .. . . .	..	40 0	..	..	..	..
,, (Silk) .. . . .	..	47 6	..	..	..	..
Waterproof Clothing.						
Cutters (Rubber Material)	70 0*	65 0	..	..	..	..
(Other) .. . . .	..	60 0	..	..	..	..
Garment Makers .. . . .	..	60 0	..	..	..	..

GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Bookbinding.						
Feeders .. . . .	..	52 6	56 0	54 0	..	50 0
Finishers	70 0	71 0	68 0	68 0	70 0	70 0
Journeymen Bookbinders	70 0	71 0	68 0	68 0	70 0	70 0
Marblers	70 0	71 0	68 0	68 0	70 0	70 0
Paper Rulers	70/ to 82/6	71 0	68 0	68 0	70 0	70 0
Engraving (Process).‡						
Engravers	*67 6	*65 0	..	..	..	..
Etchers (Half-tone)	*72/6 & 75/	*70 0	..	*70 0*	..	..
(Line)	*67/6 & 70/	*65 0	*a65 0*	*65 0*	..	..
Mounters	*60 0	*50 0	*a60 0*	..	..	..
Operators	*72/6 & 75/	*65 0	*a65 0*	..	..	..
Printers	*67/6 & 70/	*55 0	*a55/ to 60/*	*62 6*	..	..
Routers	*60 0	*60 0	..	..	..	..
Lithographing.						
Printers	70 0	73 0	73 0	68 0	..	70 0
Rotary Machinists	75 0	77 0	73 0	68 0	56 0*	80 0
Stone Polishers	50/ to 60/*	56 0	56 0	54 0	..	70 0
Printing (Daily Newspapers).						
Compositors (Day Work)	92 5	90 0	*84 4	84 0	67 6	70 0
(Night Work)	109 2	100 0	*91 8	88 0	*80 0	*75 3
Linotype Attendants—						
Day Work	*70 0	1*60 0	*65 0	63 0	55 0*	66/ & 70/
Night Work	*70 0	*62 0	*70 0	78 0	*60 0*	*66/ & 70/
,, Operators—Day Work	†	†	*95 4	*75 0*	*80 0	†
Night Work	†	†	*102 8	†	*90 0	†
Machinists (First Hand)—						
Day Work	82 6	1*77 0	*95 0	80 0	65 0	..
Night Work	*89 3	*83 4	*100 0	86 0	*65 0	*70 0
Publishers	63/3 & 66/	*60/ & 66/8	*60/ to 75/	63 0	*1260/ & 65/	*70 0
Readers—Day Work	84 0	85 0	*67/6 & 82/6	83 0	*75 0	70 0
Night Work	105 0	90 0	*72/6 & 87/6	87 0	*85 0	*75 3
Readers' Assistant—						
Day Work	60 0	52 6	*60 0	54 0	*57 0	..
Night Work	63 0	60 0	*65 0	58 0	*57 0	*60 0
Stereotypers (1st Class)—						
Day Work	74 3	1*71 9	*72/6 & 82/6	66 0	*1270 0	..
Night Work	79 9	*78 4	*77/6 & 87/6	70 6	*75 0	*70 0
Stereotypers' Assistant—						
Day Work	66 0	1*61 3	*62 6	54 0	*1260 0	..
Night Work	71 6	68 4	*67 6	58 0	*63 0	*55 0
Printing (Jobbing Offices).						
Compositors	73 6	73 0	68 0	68 0	70 0	70 0
Electrotypes	74 0	73 0	60 0	65 0*	..	70 0
General Hands	48 0	52 6	56 0	54 0	*55 0*	50 0
Linotype Operators	*75 0	*81 0	*73/4 & 81/4	*75 0	*80/ & 90/*	81 0
Machinists	56/ & 70/	73 0	56/ & 68/	68 0	70 0	70 0
Monoline Operators	*71 3	*81 0	*73/4 & 81/4	*75 0	*80/ & 90/*	81 0
Monotype Operators	*63 9	*81 0	*68/ & 74/	*75 0	*77 6*	†
Casting Machinists	*48 0	*52 6	*56 0	58 0	..	..
Readers	65 0	77 0	68 0	68 0	*75 0*	70 0
Stereotypers	67 6	73 0	56/ & 68/	68 0	70 0	70 0
Typograph Operators	*75 0	*81 0	*73/4 & 81/4	*75 0	65 0*	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Piece-work rates. ‡ Other than in newspaper offices. Higher rates quoted for Sydney are paid in newspaper offices.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURES.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Asphalting.												
Layers (Cold Work) ..	66	0	60	6			60/ to 65/*		..		648/to 60/*	
," (Hot Work) ..	66	0	66	0			..		..		648/to 60/*	
Mastic Boilers ..	..	..	380	0			..		..		..
Potmen ..	66	0	55	0			..		..		648/to 60/*	
Rubbers Down ..	..	..	60	6			..		..		..
Yardmen and Labourers	64	0	55	0			54. 0*		..		648/to 60/*	
Boatbuilding.												
Boatbuilders ..	76/ & 80/		72	0*	1262	8	84	0*	90	0	72	0*
to 70 6*												
Brickmaking.												
Burners ..	67/6 & 69/		277	6	64/ & 66/		275	0	270	0	55	6
Carters (One Horse)† ..	255	6	1761	0	1961	0	1761	0	54	0	1761	0
," (Two Horses)‡ ..	260	0	1766	0	1966	0	1764	0	60	0	1766	0
Clayholemen ..	68	0	60	0	62	0	60	0	60	0	49	6
Drawers ..	69	6	70	0	62	0	66	0	..		55	6
Labourers ..	64	0	57	0	60	0	54	0	56	0	49	6
Loaders Out ..	64	0			60	0					55	6
Loftsmen ..	61	0	57	0	60	0	57	0	52	0	54	0
Machinemen ..	66	0	164	10	62	0	59	0	58/ & 62/		54	0
Panmen ..	64	0	162	8	60	0	159/ & 62/		58	0	54	0
Pit Foremen ..	74	6	80	0	66	0	67	0	66	0		
," Men ..	68	0	63	0	62	0	60	0	60	0	54	0
Shooters ..	71	0	67	0	66	0	67	0	66	0	57	0
Setters ..	69	6	66	0	60/ & 62/		66	0	62/ & 64/		54/ & 60/	
Truckers ..	69	6*	57	0	60	0	57	0	56	0	54	0
Wheelers ..	64	0	57	0	60/ & 62/		57	0	60	0	54	0
Yardmen ..	64	0	57	0	60	0	54	0	56	0	55	6
Broom-making (Millet).												
Sorters (Head) ..	66	9	72	6	60	0*	..	..			770	0*
," (Other) ..	57/9 & 61/		62	6	57	6*	..	..			745	0*
Varnishers Ringers per and Sizers (1000) ..	2	10	2	6	..		..	..	..		..
Brushmaking.												
Bass Broom Drawers ..	66	0	52	6	..		52	6	..		..
Finishers ..	66	0	60	0	..		60	0	..		..
Machinists (Boring) ..	66	0	60	0	..		60	0	..		..
," (Boult's Carver) ..	69	0*	64	0	..		64	0	..		..
Paint Brush Makers ..	70	0	67	6	..		67	6	..		..
Pan Workers (Hair & Bass)	66	0	55/ & 60/		..		55/ & 60/		..		..
Candle Making.												
Acidifiers ..	57	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	..	0*	..	..
General Hands ..	55	0	57	6	58	0	57	6	60	0*	..	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	59	6	63	0	58	0	63	0	..		..
Moulders ..	55	0	61	6	63	0	61	6	60	0*	57	6*
Press-room Gangers ..	57	0	60	6	59	0	63	6	..		..
Stillmen ..	60	0	63	0	63	0	63	0	..		..
Cardboard Box Makers.												
Guillotine and other Cutters	54/ to 60/*		64	0	50/ to 60/*		68	0	..		..
Other Adults ..	50	0*	52	0	50/ to 60/*		..	..	..		..
Coachmaking (Road).												
Bodymakers ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	60	0
Labourers ..	55	6	51	0	51	4	54	0	..		..
Painters ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	60	0
," Labourers ..	56	6	51	0	51	4	54	0	54	0*	..	
Smiths ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	60	0
," Strikers ..	55	6	51	0	44	0	57	0	60	0	..	
Trimmers ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	60	0
Vycemen ..	58	6	52	0	..		54	0	60	0*	45	0
Wheelmaking Machinists ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	65	0*
Wheelwrights ..	67	6	66	0	62	4	66	0	63	0	60	0
Coachmaking (Axlemaking).												
Centre Turners ..	67	6	51	0	..		66	0	..		..
Faceplate Workers ..	67	6	60	0	..		66	0	..		..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Piece-work rates. ‡ Hours quoted for Melbourne and Hobart came into force on 1st January, 1918.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURES—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Coachmaking (Springmaking)	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Fitters	67 6	66 0	..	66 0	..	..
Spring Makers	67 6	64 0	..	66 0	..	..
Fellmongering.						
Bate Hands	57 0	56 0	60 0	57/* & 60/	..	..
Green Hands	55 6	56 0	61 6	60 0	..	..
Labourers	55 6	56 0	60 0	57/* & 60/	..	..
Limepit Men	57 0	56 0	64 6	60 0	..	..
Machinists (Burring)	60 0	57 0	67 6	60 0	..	..
(Fleshing)	60 0	57 0	67 6	60/* & 60/	..	..
(Scouring)	55 6	60 0	61 6	60/* & 65/*	..	..
(Setting Out)	60 0	57 0	60 0	57/* & 60/	..	..
Soakholemen	60 0	56 0	67 6	57/* & 60/	..	..
Sweathouse Men	57 0	56 0	67 6	60 0	..	..
Wool Sorters	60 0	63 0	61 6	60 0	..	..
Fibrous-Plaster Working.						
Fixers' Assistants	54 0*	54 1	..	..	..	..
Other Adults	54 0*	54 0	..	..	..	..
Shop Hands . . . . .	..	66 0	..	..	..	..
Gas Making and Supply.†						
Blacksmiths	80 0*	78 0	75 2	76 6	78 0*	76 6
Coke Trimmers	67 6	66 0	55 0*	64 6	65 0	64 6
Engine Drivers	68/6 to 76/6	75 0	68/ to 84/	78 7	72 0*	73 6
Gas Fitters	72 0	81 0	60 6	79 6	78 0	79 6
Labourers	61 6	63/ & 66/	55 0	61/6 & 64/6	60 0	61/6 & 64/6
Mainlayers	76/6 & 84/	75 0	59/7 & 63/3	73 6	72 0	73 6
Metermakers	66 0	72/ & 81/	..	79 6	72 0	79 6
Meter Testers	54/ & 60/	69 0	..	..	..	..
Service Layers	67 6	75 0	59 7	73 6	69 0	73 6
(Labourers)	61 6	66 0	55 0	64 6	60 0	64 6
Stokers	73 6	75/ & 76/6	82 10	78/7 to 81/10	69/ & 76/6	73/6 & 75/
Yardmen	61 6	63 0	55 0	61 6	57 0	61 6
Glassfounding.						
Bottlestoppers	63 0	63 0	..	63 0	..	..
Furnacemen	28 69 0	69 0	28 66 0*	69 0	25 70 0*	..
(Assistant)	28 63 0	63 0	28 60 0*	63 0	..	..
Labourers	63 0	63 0	..	63 0	60 0*	..
Lehrmen	63 0	63 0	..	63 0	..	..
Packers	63 0	63 0	..	63 0	60 0*	..
Sorters	63 0	63 0	..	63 0	60 0*	..
Glassworking and Glazing.						
Bevellers	73/ & 74/	62 6	66 0*	56 0	..	60 0
40/ to 50/*	48 0	..	..	36 0	..	..
Cementers	72 0	54 0	71 6	48 0	..	..
Cutters & Glaziers (Other)	72 0	62 6	71 6	56 0	..	..
(Plate)	73 0	54 0	..	56 0	..	..
Lead Light Glaziers	60 0*	53 0	..	48 0	..	..
Packers	76 0	..	..	60 0	..	..
Silverers (using Own Recipe)	76 0	62 6	60 0*	56 0	..	..
(Others) . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Horsehair Working.						
Curlers	60 0*	60 0	..	..	..	..
Drafting Hands	60 0*	60 0	..	..	..	..
Wet Hacklers and Others	50/ to 60/*	52 6	..	..	..	..
Jewellery, Clock and Watch Making.†						
Chainmakers	73/6 & 76/	63 0	12a65 0*	\$60/ & 67/6	70 0*	50/ to 70/*
Engravers	76 0	1175 0	12a65 0*	70 0	70 0*	50/ to 70/*
Mounters	73 6	70 0	12a65 0*	75 0	70 0*	50/ to 70/*
Setters	76 0	70 0	1a75 0	75 0	70 0*	50/ to 70/*
Watch and Clock Makers	1175 0	1170 0	12a70 0	72 6	70 0*	..
,, Repairers	1175 0	1170 0	12a70 0	72 6	70 0*	70/ to 80/*
Leather (Small Goods).						
Foremen . . . . .	..	66 0	70/ to 80/*	..	..	..
General Hands	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0*	66 0
Manures (Animal).						
Fertiliser Hands	54 0	54 0	56 6	..	..	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Working hours per week for main and service layers and yardsmen are 44 in North Brisbane and 48 in South Brisbane.

‡ Melbourne rates from 19th January, 1918. § Hours of labour per week: 48 (daylight), 45 (artificial light).

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURES—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Manures (Artificial).						
Acid Retortmen ..	61 0	63 0	..	63 0	63 0	..
Bagging Men ..	58 0	60 0	..	60 0	60 0	..
Bin Workers ..	64 0	60 0	..	60 0	60 0	..
Bone Mill Feeders ..	..	60 0	..	60 0	60 0	..
Chamber Burners ..	66 0	63 0	..	63 0	63 0	..
Crushers and Mixers ..	60/ to 66/	63 0	..	63 0	60 0	..
Labourers ..	60 0	60 0	..	60 0	60 0	..
Masonry (Marble and Stone).						
Carvers ..	*110 0	*82 6	*71 6	84 0	78 0*	..
Machinists (Carborundum) ..	70 0	62 0	*71 6	64 0	60 0*	..
(Other) ..	..	70 0	*71 6	64 0	60 0*	..
Masons ..	*77 11	*71 6	*73 4	68 0	78 0*	72 0
& 81 7						
Polishers (Machine-Granite) ..	70 0	62 0	*71 6	54 0	78 0*	..
(Marble) ..	70 0	62 0	*71 6	54 0	78 0*	..
(Other Granite) ..	70 0	*60 0	*71 6	54 0	78 0*	..
(Marble) ..	70 0	*58 1	*71 6	54 0	78 0*	..
Masonry, Monumental Workers						
Carvers ..	*88 11	*77 0	*71 6	84 0	78 0*	72 0
Fixers ..	81 0	60 0	*71 6	64 0	72 0*	72 0
Labourers ..	57 0	58 0	*47 8	54 0	60 0*	60 0
Letter Cutters ..	*76 1	*69 8	*71 6	74 0	78 0*	72 0
& 71 6						
Masons ..	*74 3	*66 0	*71 6	68 0	78 0*	72 0
Opticians.						
Journeymen ..	1168 0	1162 0	1250/ to 70/*	67/6 to 80/	..	..
Paper Bag Making.						
Guillotine Cutters ..	48 0	57 6	68 0	68 0	..	..
Machinists ..	62 6	57/6 & 68/6	68 0	70 0*	..	..
Paper Making.						
Beatermen ..	76 0	72 0	..	..	..	..
(Assistant) ..	58 0	54 0	..	..	..	..
Breakermen ..	57 6	60 0	..	..	..	..
Cutters ..	58 0	57 0	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	58 0	57 0	..	..	..	..
Machinists ..	76 0	72 0	..	..	..	..
(Assistant) ..	55 0	54 0	..	..	..	..
Packers ..	57 6	54 0	..	..	..	..
Ragboilermen ..	60 0	57 0	..	..	..	..
Rippers ..	57 6	57 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	55 0	54 0	..	..	..	..
Polish Making.						
Foremen ..	..	60 0	..	..	..	..
Grinders ..	..	60 0	..	60 0	..	..
Millhands ..	..	60 0	..	60 0	..	..
Mixers ..	..	60 0	..	60 0	..	..
Other Adults ..	..	57 6	..	57 6	..	..
Portmanteaux Making.						
Journeymen ..	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0*	66 0
Potteries (General).						
Burners (Head) ..	64 0	*75 6	60 0	57 0*	..	52 6
(Assistant) ..	59 0	*70 0	60 0	54 0*	..	49 6
Hollow-ware Pressers ..	69 0	56 9	60 0	60 0*	..	55 6
Labourers ..	59 0	54 0	60 0	51/ & 54/*	..	49 6
Sagger Makers ..	61 6	54 0	..	51/ & 54/*	..	..
Sanitary Pressers ..	74 0	58 9	60 0	..	..	55 6
Throwers (1st Class) ..	74 0	63 0	76 0	63 0*	..	58 6
(2nd Class) ..	..	52/6 to 57/9	68 0	..	..	49 6
Turners ..	66 0	56 9	..	..	..	..
Potteries (Pipemaking).						
Burners (Head) ..	69 0	*75 6	66 0	57 0*	66 0*	58 6
(Assistant) ..	..	*70 0	60 0	..	60 0*	49 6
Drawers ..	64 0	55 0	60 0	54 0*	66 0*	..
Junction Stickers ..	66 0	56 3	60 0	..	66 0*	52 6
Moulders ..	70 0	58 3	60 0	..	72 0*	54 0
Mould Makers ..	64 0	68 0	62 0	66 0*	72 0*	..
Setters ..	68 0	58 3	60 0	..	66 0*	52 6

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VL—OTHER MANUFACTURES—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Potteries—Tile Making, (other than Roofing).						
Labourers	59 0	50 6	60 0	..	..	49 6
Moulders or Pressers	60 0	51/6 & 55/6	60 0	..	..	..
Setters (Head)	65 0	53 6	60 0	..	..	..
(Other)	60 0	50 6	60 0	..	..	..
Quarrying.						
Borers (Hand or Machine)	68 0	66 0	72 0	63 0*	66 0	57 0
(Assistant)	60 0	60 0	65 6	60 0*	..	54 0
Dressers	*73 4	72 0	65 6	..	..	54 0
Facemers	70 0	66 0	72 0	..	..	54 0
Gutterers	78 10	..	76 0	..	..	54 0
Hammermen	66 0	75 0	72 0	69 0*	60 0	54 0
Labourers or Strippers	60 0	60 0	65 6	60 0*	54 0	50 0
Loaders, Pluggers or						
Truckers	60 0	60 0	65 6	63 0*	54/ & 60/	50 0
Machine Feeders	72 0	60 0	71 6	66 0*	60 0	54 0
Quarrymen	*73 4	..	76 0	63 0*	60/ & 66/	*66 0
Spallers	64 0	66 0	70 0	63 0*	60 0	54 0
Rope Making.						
Clothes Line Lappers	54 0	52 0	42 0	..	..	..
Feeders for First Spreader	54 0	54 0	42 0	54 0*	..	..
Foremen (Head)	66/ & 69/	60/ & 65/	60 0	..	..	..
(Jenny)	54 0	60 0	48 0	..	..	..
KnockersOut and Dampers						
Down	54 0	52 0	42 0	54 0*	..	..
Oilers	54 0	54 0	..	54 0*	..	..
Packers	54 0	52 0	42 0	54 0*	..	..
Reelers (Hand)	54 0	54 0	42 0	54 0*	..	..
(Steam)	54 0	55 0	..	..	..	..
Rubber Working.						
Calender Hands	75 0	71 6	..	..	..	..
Compound Weighers	63/ to 66/*	62 6	..	..	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers	60 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Dough Mixers	63 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Forcing Machinists	63 0	60 0	..	..	..	..
Heaters	63 0	61 6	..	..	..	..
Hosemakers	63 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands	63 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Mill Hands	66 0	65 6	..	..	..	..
Moulders (Other)	63 0	61 6	..	..	..	..
Other Adults	60 0	57 6	..	..	..	..
Press Hands	63 0	61 6	..	..	..	..
Spreaders	63 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Surgical, Packing and						
other Makers	63 0	62 6	..	..	..	..
Textile Cutters	60 0	60 0	..	..	..	..
Tube Repairers	63 0	62 6	..	55/ to 60/*	..	..
Joiners	60 0	59 0	..	55/ to 60/*	..	..
Tyre Moulders	66 0	71 6	..	..	..	..
Vulcanisers	63 0	57 6	..	55/ to 60/*	..	..
Wrappers	60 0	59 0	..	55/ to 60/*	..	..
Saddlery and Harnessmaking.						
Collarmakers	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	65 0	66 0
Harnessmakers	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	60 0	66 0
Machinists	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	60 0	66 0
Saddlers	66 0	66 0	66 0	66 0	60 0	66 0
Sail Making.						
Sailmakers	68 0	58 6	*62 6*	54 0*	1260/ to 70/*	..
Ship Workers.						
Carpenters and Joiners	80 0	*73 4	*66 0	84 0*	..	72 0*
Dockers	72/ & 80/	*66 0	*66 0	..	..	..
Painters	79/ & 87/	*66 0	*66/ & 73/4	52 0	..	..
Shipwrights (New Work)	80 0	*82 6	*82 6	84 0	90 0	72 0*
(Old Work)	84 0	*82 6	*82 6	84 0	90 0	72 0*
Soap Making.						
Foremen	62 0	64 6	62 6	64 6	..	73 0*
General Hands	55 0	57 6	57 6	57 6	60 0*	59 0*
Mixers	55 0	62 6	57 6	62 6	60 0*	..
Soap Makers	67 0	67 0	57 6	67 0	60 0*	80 0*
(Assistant)	57 0	66 6	57 6	66 6	..	77 0*
Tallow Making.						
Tallowmen	66 6	60 0	60 0	50/ to 55/*	70 0	*52 6

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURES—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Tanning and Currying.†												
Beamsmen	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6
Curriers	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6
Fancy Leather Finishers	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6
Japanners or Enamellers	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6
Jiggers and Grainers (Bookbinding Leather)	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6
Labourers	61	6	61	6	61	6	61	6	61	6	61	6
Limemen and Yardmen	62	6	62	6	62	6	62	6	62	6	62	6
Machinists (Fleshing) ..	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6	70	6
(Scouring)	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6
(Scudding)	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6
(Shaving)	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6
(Splitting)	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6	75	6
(Unhairing)	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6
(Whitening)	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6	68	6
(Other)	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6	63	6
Rollers and Strikers	67	6	67	6	67	6	67	6	67	6	67	6
Tablemen	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6	65	6
Tent and Tarpaulin Making.												
Cutters (1st Hand)	60	0	70	0	1 ² 65	0*	63/ to 66	/*	1 ² 60	0*	1 ² a7 ¹	0*
(2nd Hand)	50	0	50	0	1 ² 55	0*	..	..	1 ² 60	0*	1 ² a50	0*
Dressers	54	0	50	0								
Machinists	52	6	50	0	1 ² 65	0*	66	0*				
Sewers (Hand)	60	0	58	6	1 ² 65	0*	60	0*	1 ² 60	0*		
Tent Makers	60	0	58	6	*65	0*	60	0*	1 ² 60	0*		
Wickerworking.												
Bamboo or Wickerworkers	66	0	60	0	*66	0	60	0	67	0	52	6
Basket Makers & Repairers	69/ & 72/		58	6	*66	0	60	0	..	..
Upholsterers	67	0*	56	0	*66	0	60	0	..	..

GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Bricklaying.												
Bricklayers (Surface)	84	0	*77	0	*79	9	*77	0	84	0*	76	0
(Sewer and Tunnel)	90	0	*82	6	*79	9	*77	0	84	0*	84	0
Carpentering.												
Carpenters	80	0	*73	4	*75	2	*71	6	72	0	72	0
Joinery.												
Machinists (1st Class)	74	0	70	0	*75	2	67	6	..	..	72	0
(2nd Class)	69	0	68	0	*69	8	60	0	..	..	68	0
(3rd Class)	62	6	61	0	*69	8	58	6	..	..	60	0
Labouring (Builders).†												
Bricklayers' Labourers	72	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	54/ to 60	/*	*66	0
Carpenters' Labourers	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	60	0*	*66	0
Concrete Workers	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	60	0*	*66	0
Earth Excavators	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	60	0*	*66	0
Gear Workers	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	72	0*	*66	0
Masons' Labourers	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	54/ to 60	/*	*66	0
Plasterers' Labourers	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	54/ to 60	/*	*66	0
Scaffold Hands	68	0	*66	0	*64	2	*66	0	72	0*	*66	0
Lathing and Ceiling.												
Lathers	78	0*	*75	2*	*77	0*	72	0*	78	0*	68	0*
Metal Ceilers	68	0	*70	0*	*75	2*	..	..	..	..	48	0*
Masonry.												
Masons	*77/11-81/7		*71	6*	*73	4	*77	0	78	0*	*72	0
Painting (House) and Glazing.												
Glaziers	75	0	*66	0	*71	6	*66	0	72	0	66	0
Painters	75	0	*66	0	*71	6	*66	0	72	0	66	0
Paperhangers	75	0	*66	0	*71	6	*66	0	72	0	66	0
Signwriters	83	0	*66	0	*71	6	*66	0	72	0	66	0

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† In Melbourne, the current Wages Board Determination provides weekly rates of wage for night shifts equivalent to time and a quarter daily rates for each occupation.

‡ The rates of wage quoted for Builders' Labourers for Sydney are those payable under State Award. The rates quoted for Perth are the ruling or predominant rates, while those for Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart are the rates fixed by the Award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VII.—BUILDING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Plastering.						
Fibrous Plaster Fixers	84 0	*66 0	*71 6			
Plasterers (Surface) ..	84 0	*75 2	*77 0	*73 4	78 0	68 0
, (Sewer or Tunnel) ..	88 0	to 78 10 *84 4	*86/2 to 90 9	*85 4	..	..
Plumbing and Gasfitting.						
Galvanised Iron Workers	80 0	*73 4	*75 2	76 0	78 0	60/ to 70/*
Gasfitters ..	80 0	*73 4	*75 2	*69 8	78 0	72 0*
Plumbers ..	80 0	*73 4	*75 2	*73 4	78 0	72 0*
Roofing.						
Shinglers ..	84 0	*82 6	*75 2*	..		
Slaters ..	84 0	*82 6	*75 2*	72 0*	72 0*	66 0*
Tilers ..	84 0	*82 6	*75 2*	72 0*	72 0*	66 0*
Tile Laying.						
Tile Layers ..	78 0	*77 0	*77 0	..	..	*77 0*
Tuckpointing.						
Tuckpointers ..	72 0	*71 6	*79 9	72 0*	72 0*	*71 6*
Water Supply and Sewerage						
Carpenters ..	80 0	*73 4	..	78 0*	72 0	66 0*
Concretors ..	69 0	72 0	*66/ to 73/4	57/ & 63/*	63 6	57 0*
Labourers ..	63 0	57 0*	60 0	54/ & 60/*	57 6	54 0*
Miners (Sewer) ..	4*77/11/ & 85/6	68/ & 72/	*75 2	..	*66 6	54 0*
Pipejoiners and Setters	66/ & 70/6	68 0	*66 0	60/ to 66/*	66/6 & 81/6	57 0*
Timbermen ..	70/6 & 75/6	..	*75 2	57/ & 63/*	66 6	54 0*
Toolsharpeners ..	66 0	68 0	to 82 6 72 0	57/ & 63/*	66 6	60 0*

GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Coal Mining.†						
Blacksmiths ..	70/ to 84/	77/4 to 80/6	88/ & 91/	..	..	65/ to 79/6
Bracemen ..	72/ to 73/9	64/9 to 77/5	71/3 & 86/10 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	65 0
Carpenters ..	72/ to 88/	77/4 to 82/9	82/ & 83/	..	..	..
Deputies ..	84/ to 99/	92/10 to 104/6	91/ & 94/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	83/ & 84/
Engine Drivers (Winding and Loco.) ..	76/ to 88/	75/5 to 84/	84 0	1281/ & 84/	..	69/ to 81/
Do. (Other) ..	69/ to 80/	69/	75 10	73 0	60/ to 65/	..
Labourers (Surface) ..	65/5 to 69/	62/ to 64/9	65/4 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 71/9	..	..	..
(Underground)	65/6 to 72/	64/9	67/6 & 75/7 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	..
Miners (Machine) ..	†	†	†	†	..	..
(Manual) Dry Work	†	†	†	†	..	..
Wet Work	†	†	†	†	..	..
Platmen or Banksman	72/ to 75/6	79/ to 85/1	65/4 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 79/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	84 0	60 0	..
Shaftsinkers (Dry Work) ..	†	†	91/ & 96/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	..
(Wet Work)	†	†	99/ & 104/3	..	..	..
Shiftmen (Dry Work) ..	65/6 to 93/	79/ to 85/1	83/ & 90/9	96 0	77 6	..
(Wet Work)	65/6 to 93/	86/5	91/ & 98/3	..	..	..
Shotfirers ..	78/ to 96/6	..	83 0	96 0	..	..
Shovellers ..	65/6 to 69/	64/9	..	85 0	..	..
Skipreparers ..	65/6 to 73/	61/6 to 64/9	..	..	..	65 0
Strikers ..	60/ to 68/6	61/6 to 64/9	..	..	..	..
Timbermen ..	78/8 to 85/6	79/2 to 90/	83 0	84 0	..	..
Weighmen ..	73/2 to 80/	69/ to 86/4	..	84 0	72 0	..
WHEELERS ..	63/ to 75/6	72/ to 75/6	72/ & 77/4 $\frac{1}{2}$	84/ to 91/	61 6	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Piece-work rates. ‡ The rates of wage quoted are those awarded by the special tribunal appointed under the War Precautions Act. The rates came into force on the 1st January, 1917. The hours of labour for coal miners in the Commonwealth were fixed by the tribunal, as follows:—Eight hours bank to bank, inclusive of one half hour for meal time, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and six hours bank to bank, inclusive of one half hour for meal time on Saturday, Sundays and holidays. The customary number of shifts per fortnight is eleven, the collieries not working on pay Saturday.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP VIII.—MINING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.		Victoria.		Q'sland.		S. Aust.		W. Aust.		Tasmania.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gold and Other Mining (Ex- cept Coal).††												
Battery Feeders	54	to 67/6	54/	& 58/	66/	to /84			69/	to 79/6	48/	to 60/
Bracemen	57	to 72/	59/	& 60/6	63/	to 89/10	75/	& 79/	72/	to 82/6	54/	to 69/
Engine Drivers (Stationery)	66/	to 78/	60/	to 75/	75/	2 to 103/7	89/	to 99/	79/6	to 93/	55/	to 78/
"(Winding & Loco.)	78/	to 90/	72/	to 78/	80/	to 114/7	110	0	85/6	to 96/	66/	to 84/
Firemen	60/	to 78/	57/	to 72/	66	to 95/4	82/6	to 90/6	69/	to 84/	60/	to 66/
Labourers	54/	to 59/	54/1	to 84/4	68/	to 72/6	67/6	to 78/	48/	to 64/6		
Miners (Dry Work)	52/6	6-76/6	68/	to 72/	71/6	to 89/10	†		73/6	to 87/	54/	to 78/
"(Wet Work)	52/6	72/6-76/6	69/	to 78/	80/8	to 98/1	†		79/6	to 93/	60/	to 84/
"(Machine)	52/6	66/6-90/	60/	to 74/	75/2	to 98/1	†		76/6	to 91/6	60/	to 78/
Platmen	52/5	to 72/	59/	& 60/6	63/	to 89/10	75/	& 79/	72/	to 82/6	54/	to 69/
Shaft Sinkers (Dry Work)	52/6	to 84/	66/	to 74/	75/2	to 98/1	†		76/6	to 91/6	60/	to 78/
"(Wet Work)	52/7	to 90/	72/	to 80/	80/8	to 98/1	†		82/6	to 97/6	66/	to 84/
Shift Bosses	52/6	to 84/	64/	to 70/	80/	to 109/1	93/6	to 104/6	90/	to 120/	63/	to 90/
Timbermen	52/6	-82/6	64/6	to 72/6	75/2	to 98/1	87	0	78/	to 93/	55/	to 81/

GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Railways.†												
Engine Drivers (Loco).—§												
(1st Class)	96	0	87	0	96/	to 106/	96	0	90	0	79	6
(2nd Class)	90	0	81	0	90/	to 100/	90	0	84	0	73/6	to 76/6
(3rd Class)	84	0	69/	to 75/	84/	to 94/	84	0	78	0	70/6	to 73/6
(4th Class)	78	0	69	0	78/	to 88/	78	0	72	0	67	6
(5th Class)	72	0	..		78/	to 88/	75	0	66	0	64	6
Firemen (1st Class) § ..	66	0	60	0	60	to 76/	72	0	66	0	57	0
(2nd Class)	60	0	57	0	60/	to 76/	67	6	60	0	54	0
(3rd Class)	57	0	54	0	60/	to 76/	63	0	57	& 60/	51/	& 54/
Guards (1st Class)	75	0	72	0	85/6	to 97/6	75	0	66	0	69/	& 72/
(2nd Class)	62/6	to 72/	60/	to 69/	76/6	to 90/	63/	to 72/	66	0	63/	& 66/
(3rd Class)	60/	to 66/	54	0	69/	to 81/	57/	to 60/	57	& 60/	51/	& 60/
Porters	55/6	to 58/6	54/	to 60/	57/	to 69/	57/	to 66/	57/6	& 63/6	48/	to 57/
Shunters (1st Class)	75/8	to 84/	75/	to 88/	88/6	to 97/6	69	0	72	6	57	0
(2nd Class)	63/	to 69/	66/	to 69/	78/	to 87/	66	0	66	6	54	0
(3rd Class)	60	0	60/	63/	72/	to 81/	63	0	60	6	51	0
(Ordinary)	60	0	57	to 60/	66/	to 75/	60	0	60	6	..	
Signalmen (Special)	72/2	75/	84/	& 87/	84/	87/	84	6	..			
(1st Class)	75/	& 78/	66/	69/	81/	to 90/	78	0	75	6	57/	& 60/
(2nd Class)	72	0	63	0	75/	to 84/	66/	to 72/	69	6	51/	& 54/
(3rd Class)	69	0	60	0	69/	to 78/	60	0	63	6	..	
(4th Class)	66	0	57	0	63/	to 72/	57	0	60	6	..	
Tramways (Electric & Cable).||												
Car Washers or Cleaners	55	6	59/6	& 60/	55	0	57	0	57/6	& 63/6	57	0
Conductors (1st Year)	55	6	59/6	& 60/	50/	& 55/	54/	& 56/	63	6	57	0
(2nd Year)	57	6	62/6	& 63/	55	0	56/	& 58/	63	6	57	0
(3rd Year)	60	0	65/6	& 66/	60	0	58/	& 60/	63	6	57	0
Firemen (Four Fires)	67	0	68/6	& 69/	68	0	66	0	63	0*	..	
(Less than Four)	62/6	to 67/	65/6	& 66/	64	0	60	0	63	0*	..	
Horse Drivers	58	6	62/6	& 63/	56	0	57	0	58/6	63	57	0
Labourers	58	6	59/6	& 60/	58/	& 60/	57	0	57	6	57	0
Lamp Trimmers	55	6	62/6	& 63/	..		..		..		..
Maintenance Men	58	6	59/6	to 63/	60	0	57	0	57	6	60	0
Motormen or Gripmen—												
1st Year	60	0	59/6	& 60/	50/	& 55/	58	0	57/6	& 63/6	57	0
2nd Year	63	0	62/6	& 63/	55	0	60	0	63	6	60	0
3rd Year	66	0	65/6	& 66/	60	0	63	0	63	6	63	0
Night Watchmen	56	0	59/6	& 60/	42/57	6	57	0	52/67	6	57	0
Overhead Wiremen												
(Leading)	80	0*	68/6	& 69/	72	6	63	0	69	6	63	0
(Other)	57	to 66/	65/6	& 66/	62/	to 65/	57	0	57	6	60	0
Pitmen††	68	0	68/6	& 69/	60/	to 75/6	56/	to 60/	60	6	63	0
Signalmen	66/	to 72/	65/6	to 69/	57/6	to 63/	60/	& 63/	..	..	..
Tower Wagon Drivers††												
(Horse)	2561	6	62/6	to 66/	57	0	57	0	2563	6	61	0
(Motor)	2567	0	..		..		63	0	..		..
Track Cleaners	55	6	59/6	& 60/	50	6	57	0	57	6	57	0
Trimmers or Fuelmen ..	55/6	& 59/	..		58	0	60	0	54	0*	..	

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† Contract work. †† The number of working hours constituting a full week's work in Queensland have been fixed by Awards as follows:—Central Division, underground work shall be done in three shifts of 48, 44, and 40 hours each week; payment to be made as though 48 hours had been worked in each week; Cloncurry and Cooktown, 44 hours per week. In Victoria the hours of labour for underground workers are 44 per week; and in South Australia 44½ hours for the day and 40 hours for the afternoon and night shifts. In Tasmania both 44 and 48 hours per week are worked by underground employees. † The hours of labour for Railway Employees are 48 per week (in N.S.W. 96 per fortnight), except in the following cases:—VICTORIA.—Porters, 54 hours per week; SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Signalmen, 48 to 57 hours per week; and TASMANIA.—Guards, Porters, Shunters, and Signalmen 54 hours per week. Owing to the difference in the classification of grades of Railway Employees in the various States, only minimum and maximum rates are quoted, excluding those for foremen. § In N.S.W. the rates of wage for 1st Class Locomotive Drivers correspond to those fixed for Drivers driving

† For continuation of footnote see next page.

GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Carrying (Merchandise).§						
Carriers (One Horse) ..	4 ^a 58 0	1 ^a 61 0	2 ^a 61 0	1 ^a 61 0	61 0	1 ^a 61 0
" (Two Horses) ..	4 ^a 63 0	1 ^a 66 0	2 ^a 66 0	1 ^a 64 0	66 0	1 ^a 66 0
" (Three Horses) ..	4 ^a 67 0	1 ^a 68 0	2 ^a 69 0	1 ^a 65 0	68 0	1 ^a 68 0
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse	57 0	1 ^a 61 0	60 0	61 0	61 0	61 0
Two Horses		1 ^a 66 0	60 0	64 0	66 0	66 0
Jinkers (One Horse) ..	2 ^a 54 0	1 ^a 69 0	2 ^a 69 0	61 0	69 0	1 ^a 69 0
" (Two Horses) ..	2 ^a 59 0	1 ^a 74 0	2 ^a 74 0	64 0	74 0	1 ^a 74 0
Sanitary Carters	65 0	1 ^a 65 to 75/	1 ^a 65 0		65/ to 75/	65/ to 75/
Stable Hands	2 ^a 57 6	1 ^a 60 0	2 ^a 60 0	1 ^a 60 0	60 0	1 ^a 60 0
& 62 6						
Tip Dray Drivers	2 ^a 56 & 62/6	1 ^a 61 0	2 ^a 61 0	..	61 0	61/ & 66/
Motor Lorries & Waggons||						
under 3 tons carry capacity	1 ^a 62 to 71/	66/ & 70/	65/ to 70/	65/ & 70/	66/ & 70/	66/ & 70/
3 tons carrying capacity	1 ^a 75 0	74 0	73/ & 75/	65/ & 70/	74 0	74 0
Carrying (Passenger).						
Bus or Coach Drivers ..		2 ^a 57 0	..	54 0	..	2 ^a 42 0
(Horse)		2 ^a 55 0	2 ^a 60 0	..	..	2 ^a 47 0
Chauffeurs	5745 0	2 ^a 46 0	..	..	..	..
Lift Attendants.						
Goods	1 ^a 52 6	1 ^a 54 2	60/ & 62/6	50 0*	..	2 ^a 45 0*
Passenger	1 ^a 52 6	2 ^a 46 8	57/6 & 60/	2 ^a 50 0*	..	2 ^a 45 0*

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Shipping (Ferryboats).						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Deck Hands	48/ to 57/6	..	2 ^a 80/ & 85/	..	..	2 ^a 40 0
Engineers	67/6 to 97/6	..	2 ^a 70 0	..	..	2 ^a 65 0
Firemen	50/ to 69/	..	2 ^a 80/ & 85/	..	12, 25 ^a 70 0	2 ^a 42 0
Masters	67/6 to 97/6	..	..	..	to 80 0	2 ^a 60 0
Shipkeepers	2 ^a 37 57 6	..	..	..	..	..
to 62 6						
Towing (Tug Boats).						
Engineers	2 ^a 70 0	90 0	2 ^a 80 0	2 ^a 64 6	..	..
to 85 0			to 80 0	..		
Firemen	57 6	69 3	2 ^a 60 0	2 ^a 69 0	..	..
& 71 6						
Masters	2 ^a 70 0	78 6	2 ^a 80 0	2 ^a 64 6	1 ^a 75 0	..
to 85 0		to 87 8	to 80 0	..		
Waterside Working.						
Coal Lumpers per hour	2 0	1 9	2 0	1 10	1 9	1 9
Lightermen	66 0	63 0*	60 0	66 0	1 ^a 60 0	..
Wharf Labourers per hour‡	1 9	1 9	1 9	1 9	1 9	1 9
Passenger Vessels (Intra-State)†						
Cooks (Chief) per month.	185 0	310 0	240 0	..	240 0	160 0
to 295 0		2 ^a 340 0*	..			
(Second) per month	155 0	220 0*	140 0	..	140 0	130 0
to 195 0						
" (Third)	155 0	170 0*	100 0	..	100 0	..
" (Ships)	195 0	200 0*	..	..	130 0	..
Pantryman	165 0	190 0	130 0	..	110 0	..
Assistant	135 0	170 0	110 0	..	100 0	..
Stewards	120 0	170 0	100 0	..	100 0	110 0
to 150 0		to 210 0	to 150 0	..	to 150 0	

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling. ‡ Rate of wage quoted is for other than special cargo. § Hours quoted for Melbourne came into force on 1st January, 1918. || Hours quoted for Brisbane came into force on 16th January, 1918.

express passenger or mail trains. 2nd to 5th Class correspond to the rates of wage fixed for different lengths of service. The classification of Locomotive Drivers and Firemen employed in the Victorian Railway Service fixes different rates of wage for the following grades of service:— (1) Country Passenger Service; (2) First-grade Suburban Passenger Service; (3) Second-grade Passenger Service; and (4) Goods or Switching Service. The rates of wage for these services have been taken as corresponding to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Class Classification in the other States, with the exception that Firemen for only three classes of service are graded. || For Sydney the wages quoted are those determined by State Awards. For Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, and Hobart the rates are those specified in agreements registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. For Brisbane, rates recently agreed to are quoted.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Passenger Vessels (Inter-State)†						
Bakers .. per month	240				260	
Barmen .. "	170				170	
Butchers .. "	180				200	
Cooks (Chief) .. "	310				340	
(Second) .. "	220				220	
(Third) .. "	170				170	
(Ships) .. "	200				200	
Pantrymen ..	190				190	
(Assistant) .. "	160 & 170				160 & 170	
Chief Saloon Steward ..	180				180	
Second .. "	210				210	
Second Saloon .. "	210				210	
Fore Cabin .. "	190				190	
Bedroom & other .. "	170				170	
All Vessels (Inter-State)†						
A.B. Seamen per month	220					
Boatstwains ..	240					
Donkeymen ..	280					
Firemen ..	260					
Greasers ..	260					
Lamp Trimmers ..	240					
Fuel Trimmers ..	220					
Marine Engineers.††						
Chief .. per month	506 s. 0 d.				782	
Second .. "	402 s. 6 d.				506	
Third .. "	356 s. 6 d.				414	
Fourth .. "	"				345	
5th, 6th, 7th, 8th .. "	"				276	
Merchant Service.††						
Masters	460s. 1360s.				780s.	
Officers, Chief	360s. 520s.				420s.	
Second	300s. 460s.				360s.	
Third	" 400s.				320s.	
Fourth and Fifth	" 260s.				260s.	
INTERSTATE PASSENGER VESSELS.						
Lowest Class, 125 tons & under. 10,000 tons.	Highest Class, 125 tons & under. 10,000 tons.					
INTERSTATE CARGO VESSELS.						
Lowest Class 60 tons & under. 4,000 tons.	Highest Class, over 600 or more N. H.P.					

GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'sland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
Farming.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
General Hands*§ ..	20/ to 30/	20/ to 25/	25/ to 30/	25/ to 35/	30/ to 40/	20/ to 25/
Harvesters*§	40/ to 50/	40/ to 50/	40/ to 50/	40/ to 50/	35/ to 50/	30/ to 40/
Milkers*§	20/ to 30/	25/ to 30/	20/ to 30/	25/ to 35/	30/ to 40/	15/ to 25/
Ploughmen*§ ..	25/ to 35/	30/ to 35/	25/ to 35/	25/ to 37/6	30/ to 45/	20/ to 30/
Chaffcutters (Portable) ..	" 60 0	" 60 0	"	56 0	"	* 60 0
(Stationary)	"	" 60 0	"	56 0	"	* 56 0
Threshers (Feeders) ..	"	"	"	"	"	* 65 0
(Machinists)	"	"	"	"	"	* 56 0
Gardening.						
Gardeners	65 0	54 0	54/ to 60/	51 0*	60 0	60 0*
(Labourers)	48 0	51 0	55 6	51 0*	60 0	48/ to 54/*
Nurserymen	54 0	51 0	65 0*	51 0*	60 0	60 0*
(Labourers)	48 0	42 0	55 0*	45 0*	54 0*	48/ to 54/*
Pastoral Workers.						
Cooks§	72 0	72 0	72 0	72 0	80 0	60 0
Shearers .. per 100	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	* 27 6	28 0
Shed Hands§	60 0	60 0	60 0	60 0	* 65 0	50 0
Wool Pressers§	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	* 100 0	60 0
Rural Workers.						
Fruit Harvesters, per hour	..	1 3½	..	1 3½	..	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling. § Rates of wage quoted are in addition to Board and Lodging provided. † Minimum rates under the Industrial Agreement are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels; the lowest and highest classes are here specified.

|| Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for Interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for Interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise specified the rates of wage specified for Employees in Clubs, Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are provided. If Board and Lodging are not provided, payment has to be made, in lieu thereof, upon an estimated value, fixed by Industrial Tribunals for the Capital Towns as follows: Sydney, 15s. 6d. to 19s.; Melbourne, 14s.; Brisbane, 15s.; Adelaide, 15s.; Perth, 22s.; and Hobart, 15s. per week. Of this sum 10s. per week is allocated as value of Board in each instance, with the exception of Sydney and Perth. In Sydney the allowance for Board varies from 10s. 6d. to 14s., according to class of establishment in which worker is employed. In Perth the allowance for Board is 17s. per week.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.		
Clubs, (Residential).														
Barmen	4	027	0	2	545	0	2	530	0	1	65	0*		
Billiard Markers	4	024	0	3	131	/ & 36/	2	550	0	2	25	0		
Cooks (Hotels, Clubs, etc.).														
Chefs	53	9	2	145	0	63	6	2	47	6	2	45	0	
	to 100	0	to 65	0	& 68	6	to 80	0	to 80	0	to 80	0		
Cooks (Second)	45	0	2	143	0	51	0	2	45	0	2	40	0	
	to 70	0	to 48	0	& 55	0	to 45	0	to 60	0	to 60	0		
,, (Third)	35	0	2	140	0	51	0	2	40	0	2	35	0	
	to 60	0	& 43	0	& 45	0	to 45	0	to 45	0	to 45	0		
Kitchenmen	26	6	2	130	0	43	6	2	25	0	2	25	0	
Lift Attendants	3	122	6	2	846	8	2	25	0					
Porters (Day Work)	4	025	0	2	130	0	2	30	0	2	25	0		
,, (Night Work)	4	025	0	2	132	6	2	25	0	2	32	0		
Hairdressing,†														
Full Hands	1	965	0	1	970	0								
Hairdressers	1	960	0	1	960	0	60	0	1	62	6	1	60	0
Hotels.														
Barmen	2	841	6	2	545	0	2	30	0	2	65	0*		
							to 42	6	to 42	6	1	65	0†	
Billiard Markers	3	125	0	3	131	/ & 36/	2	25	0					
Handymen	3	136	6	2	125	0	2	22	6	2	25	0		
							2	25	0	2	25	0		
Kitchenmen	3	041	6	2	130	0	2	43	6	2	25	/ & 30/		
Lift Attendants	2	141	6	2	846	8	2	30	0	2	32	0		
Porters (Day Work)	2	141	6	2	130	0	2	35	0	2	25	0		
,, (Night Work)	2	141	6	2	132	6	2	25	0	2	32	0		
Waiters (Head)	2	51	6	2	142	0	2	35	0	2	42	6		
,, (Others)	2	41	6	2	134	0	2	20	0	2	30	0		
Restaurants.														
Pantrymen	42/6	to 45/‡	2	130	0	57	6	25	0	2	32	0		
												2	25	0
Waiters	44/3	& 45/‡	2	134	0	57	6	25	0	2	37	6		
												2	20	0

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Bill Posting.													
Billposters	57	6	56	0	57/6	to 65/*	2	50	/ to 55/*	60	0*	50	0*
Factory Engine Driving.													
Engine Drivers (Stationary)													
1st Class	73/6	& 75/	66/	to 75/	84	0	69/	to 75/	75	0	63/*	/ to 75/	
2nd Class	71/6	& 72/	60/	to 72/	76	0	66/	to 72/	72	0	60/*	/ to 72/	
3rd Class	67/	& 69/	57/	to 69/	68	0	60/	to 69/	69	0	57/*	/ to 69/	
Firemen (1st Class)	66/	& 67/	60/	to 66/	66	0	66	0	66	0	54/*	/ to 64/6	
,, (2nd Class)	62/6	to 64/6	57/	to 64/6			58/	to 64/6	64	6	51/*	/ to 63/	
Greasers	62/6	& 63/	54/	to 63/	66	0	54/	to 63/	63	0	45/*	/ to 60/	
Trimmers	62	6	54/	to 60/	60	0	54/	to 60/	60	0	45/*	/ to 60/	
Fuel Distribution (Coal and Coke).													
Baggers and Loaders	59	0	70	0			48	0			59	0*	
Carters (One Horse)	59	0	18	31/	& 62/	1	961	0	48	0	17	61	0
,, (Two Horses)	64	0	18	66/	& 67/	1	966	0	50	0	17	66	0
Trimmers	59	0	84	0			48	0			62	0*	

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Not in addition to Board and Lodging. ‡ In hotels employees work 55 hours per week, and in restaurants 48 and 58 hours, according to class of establishment. § 48 and 54 hours per week.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Fuel Distribution (Firewood).						
Carters (One Horse)† ..	59 0	1 ⁵⁷ 6	1 ⁶¹ 0	48 0	61 0	1 ⁶¹ 0
(Two Horses)† ..	64 0	1 ⁶² 6	1 ⁶⁶ 0	50 0	66 0	1 ⁶⁶ 0
Other Adults	59 0	1 ⁵⁵ 0	1 ⁵⁷ 6-61/*	49 0	..	..
Sawyers	59 0	62 6	48 0	57 6	..	60 0*
Yardmen	59 0	1 ⁷⁵ 0	1 ⁵⁷ 6-61/*	48 0	..	54 0*
Lamp Lighting.						
Lamp Lighters	2 ⁶³ 0	63 0	60 0	61 6	55 0	59 0‡
Marine Stores.						
Bottle Washers	54 0	54 0	50 0*	57 0	60 0	..
Foremen	59 0*	60 0	57 0*	63 0	..	..
General Hands	54 0	50 0	54 0*	57 0	60 0	..
Municipal.						
Labourers	62/& 64/	55/ to 62/*	60 0	54/& 57/*	60 0	51 0*
Street Sweepers	57 0	55/ to 62/*	60 0	54/& 57/*	60 0	51 0*
Musicians.						
Orchestral	1 ¹ a60/to80/	1 ¹ a60- 0 & 75 0	1 ¹ a60 0 & 75 0	1 ¹ a60 0 & 75 0	1 ¹ a60 0 & 75 0	1 ¹ a60 0 & 75 0
Shop and other Assistants.						
Boot Salesmen§	57/ to 66/6	44/ to 60/	40/ to 63/	1 ⁴ 64 0	57 6	..
Chemists Assistants	70 0	..	22 ⁴⁰ / to 70/8	22 ⁵⁵ / to 80/	..	..
Clerks	55/ to 63/	54/ & 58/	17-19 ⁴⁰ / to 60 0	..	..	..
Confectionery Salesmen ..	2 ⁵² 6	60 ..	40/ to 63/	..	57 6	..
Drapery Salesmen ..	57/ to 66/6	60/ to 65/	40/ to 63/	1 ⁴ 64 0	57 6	1 ² 40/to70/*
Fruit Salesmen ..	2 ⁵² 6	..	40/ to 63/	..	..	..
Furniture Salesmen ..	57/ to 66/6	67 6	40/ to 63/	1 ⁷ 65 0*	62 6	1 ² 40/to70/*
Grocery Salesmen ..	60/ to 65/	1 ⁵⁵ / to 60/	40/ to 63/	1 ⁷ 55/ & 61/	57 6	60 0
Newagents' Assistants ..	55/6 to 61/	..	40/ to 63/	1 ⁴ 64 0	..	..
Railway Bookstall Assist'ts ..	55/6 to 61/	..	40/ to 63/	..	..	..
Tobacconists Salesmen ..	55/6 to 61/	..	40/ to 63/	..	..	..
Clothing (Mens').§						
Collectors, Doormen and Travellers	57/ to 66/6	65/ & 67/6	..	..	..	..
Departmental Managers	70/ & 75/	75 0	..	..	..	..
Parcels Officemen .. ..	..	54 0	..	..	..	..
Salesmen	57 0	47/6 to 67/6	40/ to 63/	1 ⁴ 64 0	57 6	1 ⁴ 0 6* to 72 0
Hardware.§						
Managers (Branch) ..	70/ & 75/	1 ⁷ 80 0	..	1 ⁷ 100 0	..	..
(Departmental) ..	70/ & 75/	1 ⁷ 80 0	..	1 ⁷ 85 0	90 0*	1 ⁹ 0 0
" ..	..	& 90 0	..	& 90 0	..	..
Salesmen (Junior) ..	29/ to 44/	745/ to 60/	..	1 ⁷ 42 6	..	1 ⁴ 0 0
" (Outside) .. ..	..	1 ⁷ 70 0	..	to 57 6	..	to 55 0
" (Senior)	57/ to 66/6	1 ⁷ 65 0	40/ to 63/	1 ⁷ 60/ & 63/	62 6	1 ⁸ 60 0
Storemen—Packing, Cleaning, etc.).						
Night Watchmen	4 ² 55 0	2 ⁷ 60 0	2 ⁷ 63 0	2 ⁸ 60 0	56 0	2 ⁷ 40/to55/*
Office Cleaners	53 6	56 0	60 0	..	..	..
Packers (General)	1 ⁵ 56/ to 60/	62 0	1 ⁶ 60 0	1 ⁷ 58 0	57 6	48 0
Storemen (General)	1 ⁵ 54/6 to 60/	62 0	1 ⁶ 60 0	1 ⁷ 58 0	57 6	48 0
Wholesale Grocery.						
Packers (Head)	59/6 to 81/	60/ to 75/	1 ⁰ 44/ to 89/	71 0	60 0*	57 6
" (Others)	56 0	58 0	1 ⁰ 60 0	58 0	57 6	50 0
Storemen (Head)	59/ to 81/	65/ to 85/	1 ⁰ 64/ to 89/	71 0	70 0*	57 6
" (Other)	54 6	65 0	1 ⁰ 60 0	58 0	57 6	50 0
Wholesale Hardware.						
Packers	1 ² 60 0	1 ⁷ 52 6	1 ⁴ 40/to55/	1 ⁷ 58 0	57 6	1 ⁴ 45/to 55/
Storemen	1 ² 58/6 to 60/	1 ⁷ 52 6	1 ⁴ 40/to55/	1 ⁷ 58 0	57 6	1 ⁴ 45/to 55/
Surveying.						
Surveyors(Cooks) for 7 days ..	60 0	2 ⁸ 70 0*	70 0‡	2 ⁵ 70 0*	63/ to 70/	..
" (Foremen)	63 0	66 0*	..	..	72 0	..
" (Labourers)	57 6	48/ to 60/*	60 0‡	60 0*	60 0	..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Hours quoted for Hobart came into force on 1st January, 1918. ‡ Number of hours per week not regulated. § Sydney rates from 1st January, 1918.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

APPENDIX V.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital Town of each State for a Full Week's Work, at 31st December, 1917.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 164).

GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Biscuit Making. Adult Females	25	0	27	6	28	6	25	0*	20/ to 30/*			
Butter Making. Adult Females			30	0			30	0*				
Cheese Making. Adult Females			30	0			25	0*				
Confectionery. [†] Chocolate Dippers	24	0	30	0	28	6	22	0	20/ to 22/6			
Other Adults	20/ to 24/		28	0	28	6	21	0	20/ to 22/6		15	0*
Jam Making and Preserving. Fillers	25/ & 33/		31	6	18/ to 25/*		25	0	20/ to 30/*		27	0
Other Adults	23	0	26	0	18/ to 25/*		25	0			22	6
Pastry Cooks. Adult Females	25/6 to 45/		27	0	30	0						
Tea Packing. Head Women	27	6	35	0								
Other Adults	to 30 0*		24	0*	29	0	24/ to 30/*		30	0*		
Tobacco Working (Cigars). Ringers	25	0	24	0					20	0*		
Wrapper Leaf Stripper	25	0	25	0					25	0*		

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.

Bootmaking. Machinists (Wax Thread)	38	6	38	6	31	0	33	0			35	0
Other Adults	31	0	31	0	31	0	30	0	31	0	28	0
Dressmaking. Adult Females	1 ⁰ 27	6	28	0	20	0	25/ & 27/6		25	0	1 ⁰ 25	0
to 35 0			to 27 6*		to 22 6*				to 30 0*		to 35 0*	
Dyers and Cleaners. Adult Females	30	0	25	0	622/ to 32/6*	25/ to 30/*	30/ & 33/*					
Hat Making (Straw). Finishers	1 ⁰ 25	0	30	0*	1 ⁰ 20	0						
Machinists	1 ⁰ 30	0	35	0*	1 ⁰ 37	6*						
Millinery. Adult Females	25	0*	25	0	25/ to 30/*		25	0	25	0	25	0*
to 30 0*									to 30 0*			
Shirt Making. Adult Females	30	0	27	6	1 ⁰ 27	6	24/ & 26/		25	0*	22	0
Tailoring (Order). [†] Machinists (Coat Hands)	35	0	30	6	36	0	25	6	40	0	25/ to 47/6	
,, (Trousers, Vest Hds.)	31	0	30	6	32/6 & 36/		25	6	40	0	25/ to 47/6	
Tailoresses (Coat Hands)	38	0	32	6	36	0	26	0	45	0	32/6 to 39/6	
,, (Trousers, Vest Hds.)	34	0	30	6	32	6	24	0	35	0	30	6
Tailoring (Ready-made). Machinists (Coat Hands)	25	0	29	6	1 ⁰ 29	6	28	0	40	0	525	0
,, (Trousers, Vest Hds.)	23	0	29	6	1 ⁰ 28	0	28	0	40	0	525	0
Tailoresses (Coat Hands)	29	6	29	6	1 ⁰ 29	6	27	6	45	0	525	0
,, (Trousers, Vest Hds.)	28	0	28	0	1 ⁰ 28	0	25	0	35	0	523	6

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † The higher rates quoted in Tasmania are for treadle machinists. † Melbourne rates from 2nd January, 1918.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Textile Working (Woollen Mills)												
Comb Minders ..	31	0	27	6	30	0	27	6*	..		22	6
Drawers and Menders ..	35/ & 40/		27	6	30	0	27	6*	..		22	6
Gillbox Minders ..	31	0	27	6	30	0	27	6*	..		22	6
Other Adults ..	31	0	27	6	30	0	22/ to 27/6*		..		22	6
Warpers ..	35/ & 40/		35	0	38	0	25/ to 35/*		..		22	6
Weavers (Loom)	40	0	35	0	38	0	30/ to 35/*		..		22	6
Tie Making.												
Machinists ..	30	0*	20/ & 22/6		..		..		..		..
Needlewomen ..	22/6 to 27/6*		22/6 & 25/		..		..		..		..
Pressers, Boxers & others	20/ to 25/*		20	0	..		..		..		..
Underclothing.												
Adult Females ..	20	0	28/ to 33/		25	0*	24	0	25	0*	*22	0*
to 25 0*												
Waterproof Clothing.												
Garment Makers ..	25	0	31	0	..		..		..		..
Needlewomen ..	to 30	0*	31	0	..		..		..		..

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURES.

Bedding and Furniture.												
Bedding Machinist ..	30	0	30	0	*30	3	28	6	..		32	0
Mattress (Wire) Workers ..	36	0	36	0	*66	0	25	6	..		32	0
Picture Frame Workers ..	*30	0	*26	0	..		..		..		..
Bookbinding.												
Folders ..	*28	0	28	6	25	0	26	0	25	0	*27	6
Sewers ..	30/ & 35/		31	0	25	0	26	0	to 30	0*	*28	0
Brassworking.												
Coremakers ..	37	0	30	0	..		..		..		..
Other Adults ..	20	0	20/ to 25/		..		..		..		..
Brush Making.												
Bass Broom Drawers ..	32	0	..		..		21	0	..		..
Bench Drawers ..	32	0	21	0	..		21	0	..		..
Machinists (Treadle Knot) ..	32	0	21	0	..		21	0	..		..
Candle Making.												
Forewomen ..	30	0	32	6	21	6	32	6	..		..
Cardboard Box Making.												
Box Makers ..	27	6*	28/ & 32/6		25/ to 30/*		26	0*	20/ to 30/*		..	
Other Adults ..	20	0	26	0	20/ to 25/*		22	6*	20/ to 25/*		..	
to 22 6*												
Jewellers.†												
Chamimakers ..	39/6 & 44/6		38	6	..		60	0	..		..
Enamel Fillers ..	21/ to 31/6		..		..		60	0	..		..
Gilders ..	39	6	40/ & 50/		12/27	6	40	0	..		..
Polishers ..	39	6	40/ & 50/		to 35	0*	40	0	..		..
Scratch Brushers ..	39	6	35	0	..		40	0	..		..
Workers N.E.I. ..	44	6	58	0	..		60	0	..		..
Leather Small Goods.												
Hand Stitchers ..	30	0	30	0*	30	0	30	0	..		30	0
Other Adults ..	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	..		30	0
Paper Making.‡												
Adult Females ..	22	6	27	0	..		..		..		..
Paper Bag Making.												
Adult Females ..	26	0	25/ & 28/		20/ to 25/*		25/ & 27/6*		..		..
Polish Making.												
Adult Females ..	20/ to 30/*		32	6	..		32	6	..		..
Portmanteau Making.												
Adult Females ..	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	..		30	0
Potteries.												
Adult Females ..	20	0	25	0	32	6	..		..		..

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164.

† Melbourne rates from 19th January, 1918. ‡ Melbourne rates from 10th January, 1918.

§ Hours of labour per week: 48 (daylight), 45 (artificial light).

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURES—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.		Perth.		Hobart.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Printing.												
Jobbing Office Assistants	726	0	28	6	25	0	26	0	20/ to 25/*		27	6
Lithographing Feeders ..	728	0	28	6	25	0	26	0	..		27	6
Rubber Working.												
Adult Females ..	28	0	31	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Saddlery and Harness Makers												
Adult Females ..	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
Sail Making.												
Adult Females ..	30	0	29	0	25	0	30	0*	25	0	..	..
to 30	0*											
Soap Making.												
Adult Females ..	21	0	32	6	..	..	32	6	..	..	..	..
Tent and Tarpaulin Makers.												
Machinists ..	127	6	29	0	21	0	30	0*	25	0	..	..
to 32	6											
Wickerworking.												
Adult Females ..	25	0*	..	..	..	..	40	0	..	..	..	..

GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise specified the rates of wage mentioned herein for Employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are provided. If Board and Lodging are not provided, payment has to be made in lieu thereof, upon an estimated value, fixed by Industrial Determinations for the Capital Towns as follows: Sydney, 15s. 6d. to 19s.; Melbourne, 14s.; Brisbane, 15s.; Adelaide, 15s.; Perth, 22s.; and Hobart, 15s. per week. Of this sum 10s. per week is allocated as value of Board in each instance.

Hotels.												
Barmaids ..	129	0	130	0	125	0	155	0*	65	0†	120	0
Housemaids ..	2818	0	2818	0	2815	0	2818	6	20	0	112	0
Laundresses ..	23	6	2826	0	20	0	30	0*	..	..	15	0
Waitresses (Head) ..	2824	0	2821	0	..	..	2820	0	..	..	120	0
(Other) ..	2824	0	2818	0	2815	0	2818	6	22	6	115	0
Laundries.												
General Hands ..	21	0	25/ to 30/*		25	0*	20	0	36	0	24	0
Machinists (Shirt & Collar)	25	0	28	0	27	6*	20	0	42	0	24	0
Sorters ..	25	0	26/ to 30/*	20/ to 25/*	22	0	36	0	36	0	24	0
Starchers ..	25	0	24	0*	25	0*	20	0	36	0	24	0
Washers ..	25	0	24/ to 30/*		25	0*	20	0	36	0	24	0
Office Cleaners.												
Adult Females ..	21	0	27	6	42/ to 46/	1020	0*	..	..	10/ to 20/*		
Restaurants.												
Pantry Maids ..	19	6	2817	0	34	0†	17	6	20	0	115	0
Waitresses ..	to 24	6\$	2818	0	34	0†	20/ & 25/	122	6	115	0	
	19	3	2818	0	34	0†	..	..	..	..	..
	to 26	6\$										

GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Clerks, etc.												
Cashiers ..	27	6	33	0	22/6 to 35/	30	0*	34	6	20	0	
	to 38	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	to 25	0*	
Clerical Assistants ..	27	6	37	0	22/6 to 35/	25	0*	..	..	20	0	
	to 38	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	to 25	0*	
Saleswomen.												
Boot ..	27	6	27/6 to 35/	22/6 to 35/	125	0	34	6	20	0	30	0*
	to 38	6	..	..	to 31	6	..	..	..	to 30	0*	
Drapery ..	27	6	32	0	22/6 to 35/	125	0	34	6	20	0*	
	to 38	6	..	..	to 31	6	..	..	..	..	..
Fruit & Confectionery	2820	0	..	..	22/6 to 35/	..	..	34	6	18	0	
										to 20	0*	
News Agent & Bookstall	27/6 to 35/		..	..	22/6 to 35/	125/ to 31/6	..	..	..	20	0*	
Tobacconists ..	30/ to 42/6		..	..	22/6 to 35/	..	..	..	..	20/ to 25/	*	

* Ruling or predominant rates, see note at top of page 164. † Not in addition to Board and Lodging. ‡ Sydney rates from 1st January, 1918. § Hours vary, 48 are worked in some establishments and 56 in others. || Hours not regulated.

NOTE.—The numerical prefixes in small type refer to the fact that the number of working hours constituting a full week's work is other than 48. For reference to these prefixes see footnote to table on page 164.